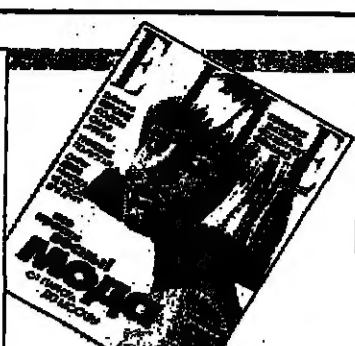


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SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT



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WIN A TRIP TO THE OLYMPICS
A young Times reader's chance to see Atlanta in style

Redwood turns up pressure

Rifkind warns of long war over beef ban

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, ANDREW PIERCE AND CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

MALCOLM RIFKIND warned Europe last night that Britain's campaign of non-cooperation may continue until the autumn unless there is agreement to lift the beef ban.

The Foreign Secretary hardened Britain's position over the crisis after John Major held the first meeting of his so-called "war cabinet" to decide tactics in the offensive against the rest of the EU.

Mr Rifkind said that Britain's refusal to co-operate in decisions requiring unanimous support was already biting. He signalled a lengthy campaign against the EU unless Britain's European partners lifted the ban on beef products such as gelatin, tallow and semen and agreed to a framework for the eventual lifting of the ban on beef.

"We do not know if this will run for days, weeks, perhaps even two to three months, perhaps even longer. The policy will continue until the objective has been achieved." Officials said that it had to be made clear to EU members that "this is not a tantrum. It will be a well thought out and concerted campaign to achieve the result we consider to be right."

Although Mr Rifkind said that Britain would not back down over the issue, he conceded that if ministers from other countries believed there should be an exception for a very serious issue, the exception would require the agreement of British ministers collectively. He added: "We do not anticipate exemptions."

Last night, the Foreign Sec-

retary was heading for confrontation with Tory right-wingers who are pressing the Government to go much further in its showdown with the EU. Two former Cabinet ministers led the right-wing charge.

John Redwood, said in one of his most outspoken attacks on Europe so far that the Prime Minister had shown a welcome determination to stand up for British interests, but it was not a lasting solution to British helplessness in the face of the mighty European Court.

Mr Redwood, writing in today's *Times*, said: "We must use the new notoriety we have gained by our threat of non-cooperation to articulate a better vision of Europe, to offer our partners a choice, to say there is a different way from that recommended by Chancellor Kohl."

The right-wing calls for war to be waged on several different fronts were led by Lord Tebbit, the former Tory Party chairman, who said: "The Prime Minister has upped the stakes very considerably. They are absolute for him. If he is not successful, it is goodbye. If he wins game set and match, it will be a huge upside for the Prime Minister."

Tony Blair criticised the Conservatives' language over the crisis, a crisis that is expected to cost the country £2.4 billion by 1999, according to a parliamentary written answer, although the EU is likely to meet a quarter of that sum. The Leader of the Opposition told Italian leaders that

Tory talk of "war on Europe" was irresponsible, foolish and deeply unhelpful. But at the same time he gave qualified support to Mr Major's policy on the ground that the national interest was at stake.

Ministers' irritation was exacerbated when the European Court of Justice ruled that the Government had wrongly prevented a British animal export company from exporting sheep to Spanish slaughterhouses.

Mr Major called Mr Rifkind and Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, to Downing Street for a 40-minute meeting to draw up the battle lines for the non-cooperation campaign.

A taste of the obstruction to come was delivered to a ministerial council in Brussels that was to have approved measures on civil protection in man-made and natural disasters. Britain refused to endorse the three items that were due for unanimous approval. The impact of the British stance was described yesterday by Franco Barberi, an Italian secretary of state, as paralysis. "I am very disappointed," he said.

While the EU tried to assess the damage from an obstruction campaign that is proving tougher than expected, Commission officials said there was little prospect that the other EU states would agree to Mr Major's demand for a deadline for lifting the overall beef ban.

John Redwood, page 20
Leading article, page 21

'I saw his knife and I pleaded with him not to hurt Steve'



Miss Cable being comforted by her father Jim during the interview at a London hotel yesterday

Road rage woman tells of fiancé's stabbing

By ADRIAN LEE

A YOUNG woman who saw her fiancé stabbed to death during a "road rage" attack described yesterday how she pleaded with the killer not to hurt him.

Danielle Cable, 17, a waitress, said other motorists ignored her requests and she was helpless as her boyfriend, Stephen Cameron, 21, died in her arms.

Giving her first interview since he was murdered on a motorway intersection in Kent on Sunday Miss Cable described the killer as "a monster". She said she wished she too had been killed "so we could still be together". Detectives have been unable to trace the murderer or his vehicle, an L-registered Land Rover Discovery.

Miss Cable said she could not understand what provoked the attack. She was on the roundabout when the Land Rover came from nowhere. "I had to brake quite sharply. Steve was just shaking his head as if to say 'you idiot', but he was joking more than anything." Both vehicles stopped at traffic lights and the other driver got out.

"Steve got out to see what he wanted and he hit Steve. I got out and begged him not to hurt him. I was begging the other drivers to help. Everyone just ignored me."

Cameron tried to kick the knife out of the man's hands. "I saw his knife and I was pleading with him not to hurt Steve. I couldn't go near him because I thought he'd hurt me. Steve was trying to kick the knife out of his hand and looking at me to say 'stay back'." Her fiancé was then stabbed and collapsed but was able to speak to her briefly.

"Steve came round and said 'He has stabbed me Dan, get the number plate'. I held him and he just looked at me. There was blood going everywhere. He was just looking at me and said 'Please help me', and there was nothing I could do."

Miss Cable spoke in a quiet, hesitant voice. She was close to breaking down on several occasions during the interview. "I was trying to get him to stay with me but it was just too late." During the attack she screamed for help from passing motorists. "They just sat in their cars and didn't do anything," Miss Cable, who also appeared

Continued on page 2 col 4

Britain gives Europe a taste of stonewalling

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

BRITAIN put the brakes on the EU machine yesterday, blocking its first action at ministerial level while the continental media succumbed to a tide of indignation over London's beef campaign and the bellicose chorus from the British popular press.

A taste of the obstruction to come was delivered to a ministerial council that was to approve measures on civil protection in man-made and natural disasters. David Bostock, Britain's deputy EU ambassador, gave the gathering an announcement that is to become ritual as long as Britain's beef is subject to an open-ended export ban. "The British Government is obliged to approach today's agenda in the wider context of the crisis on BSE," he was quoted as saying.

That meant Britain would refuse to endorse all three items which were due for

unanimous approval. Britain's envoys and ministers will thus be injecting beef into every decision-making forum, from foreign policy to transport.

Although Britain had long been reluctant to approve EU co-operation on civil protection, it had been expected to go along with the measures. The impact was described by Franco Barberi, an Italian secretary of state and chairman yesterday, as "paralysis". "I am very disappointed," he said.

Meanwhile, Stephen Wall, the ambassador, told his colleagues on Coreper, the acronym for the powerful ambassadorial council that runs EU business, that Britain would not sign an accord on company insolvency and would withhold support from preparations for the Europol convention. The final go-

RADA's grant for Blitz repairs

The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art was awarded £22,750,000 from the Arts Council's lottery funds, which will go towards renovating and extending the college's dilapidated premises in Bloomsbury, central London. In the past, any money raised has been spent on tuition, although the building has never recovered from being bombed in 1942. The news was welcomed by many former students. Page 7

England control Oval match

An inspired spell of seam bowling by Chris Lewis, the Surrey all-rounder surprisingly recalled for the one-day cricket series against India, left England firmly in control of the first international at the Oval. Lewis took four wickets before bad light halted play early with India reeling on 96 for five. They need another 196 to win when the game resumes. Page 48

Taylor rallies peers to block Howard's plan

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

LORD TAYLOR, the Lord Chief Justice, supported by an array of former Tory ministers and other peers, gave a clear signal that they would seek to block flagship plans for tougher prison sentences in the run-up to the general election. The proposals, expected in a Criminal Justice Bill this autumn, were repeatedly condemned by peers, including Lord Carr of Hadley, a former Home Secretary, as unworkable and amounting to a "denial of justice".

Lord Taylor, who is retiring because of ill-health, chose to use his final speech as Lord Chief Justice to issue a warning that the Government's proposals - which he said were based on "shallow and untested figures" - would have "grave consequences". He added: "I venture to suggest that never in the history of our criminal law have such

far-reaching proposals been put forward on the strength of such flimsy and dubious evidence."

The proposals by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, for minimum sentences for repeat burglars and drug dealers, and automatic life sentences for repeat violent and sexual offenders, are expected to be contained in a Bill this autumn. Determined opposition in the Lords, however, could effectively prevent the Bill passing through Parliament before the election.

Lord Taylor's successor as Lord Chief Justice will be announced today - he is Sir Thomas Bingham, the present Master of the Rolls. His post will be taken by Lord Woolf, the law lord, who sat at Lord Taylor's side during his address yesterday.

Judges' challenge, page 11
Letters, page 21

Hacker takes command of US Air Force computer net

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

A TEENAGE hacker in London, using the on-line codename Datastream Cowboy, took control of the computer network at a top US Air Force research laboratory, government investigators in Washington said yesterday.

Working with an accomplice known as Kuji, who was possibly a foreign agent, the 16-year-old's attack from Cyberspace put all the laboratory's 33 sub-networks off-line for several days

while files were rummaged. Repairing the break-in and adding security "patches" cost half a million dollars.

The penetration was at Rome Laboratory in New York state, the premier Air Force command and control research centre which works on weapons systems, artificial intelligence and radar guidance. During their attacks, the hackers stole information on the methods used by Air Force commanders to relay secret intelligence and targeting information during wartime. Datastream Cowboy's hacking was

described as an example of a growing and serious threat to US national security in reports and testimony to a Senate committee by the US General Accounting Office. The report said that hackers attacked Pentagon computer systems as many as 250,000 times last year, gaining entry in two out of every three attempts. Although the study showed up the Pentagon's vulnerability, it focused on unclassified systems, which represent more than 90 per cent of defence traffic.

Datastream Cowboy was caught two

years ago by Scotland Yard on information supplied by the US Air Force. Detectives found him at his keyboard on the third floor of his family's house. Realising they had come to arrest him, he curled up on the floor and cried. Since then, legal proceedings have been pending against him for fraudulent use of the British telephone service. No charges have been brought against him for breaking into US military computers and American officials have been left wondering when and if he will be prosecuted.

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Fun in the sun

Tens of thousands of Britons are flying out this weekend including a family who have bought a fortnight's fly-drive holiday in Florida for £9 a head. The weather forecast is gloomy. Pages 3, 24

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Labour divided on how to join battle

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR Labour figures were at odds last night over how to react to the campaign of non-cooperation in Europe. As Tony Blair voiced muted support for the Government's position, senior colleagues made clear their fears that Britain's action smacked of party-political.

The Labour leader said that he would back the Government's efforts to have the beef ban lifted but made clear that his party would look at the issue on a case-by-case basis. "The Government has embarked upon a strategy in which the national interest is now engaged. I will not undermine it, provided it is measured and lawful, and backed by a massive exercise in negotiation and diplomacy."

While Mr Blair was visiting Rome, senior colleagues at home were emphasising that the Conservatives were engaged in a domestic political campaign to woo Eurosceptics. Baroness Blackstone, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman in the Lords, accused the Government of "indulging in the folly of going to war with Europe in order to placate the European sceptics in the Conservative Party". She asked Baroness Chalker, the foreign affairs minister: "Would you tell the House whether we are going to war with the US, Australia and Canada, at least one of which banned British beef before the EU?"

Donald Dewar, Labour's chief whip, said his party would support the Government provided it was not simply playing "ill-defined macho politics". Gavin Strang, the shadow Agriculture Minister, said: "There is a lot of suspicion — and this extends beyond the ranks of the Labour party — with regard to this Government's motives."



Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, after his 40-minute meeting with John Major to decide what stance to take on non-cooperation

Abattoirs win right to dispute the slaughter of older cattle

By MICHAEL HORNSEY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

A GROUP of abattoir owners and farmers won permission in the High Court yesterday to mount a legal challenge to the centre-piece of the Government's strategy for restoring consumer confidence in beef.

The Quality Meat and Livestock Alliance, which has some 50 members, contends that the Government acted unlawfully in banning the sale

for food of cattle which are more than 30 months old at slaughter. Lawyers for the group say the Government has failed to show there is any risk to health from eating these older cattle, the only ground for banning them under the Food Safety Act.

Mr Justice Carnwath said: "It seems to me that there is certainly an arguable point, although I express no view as to whether it will succeed." The full application for judicial review of the ban is likely

to be heard in July. The challenge, if successful, would throw the Government's policy for dealing with the crisis in the beef industry into even greater disarray. It has also opened rifts within the farming community.

Richard Macdonald, director-general designate of the National Farmers' Union, said: "This challenge is not helpful and we do not support it. Culling animals older than 30 months is politically and commercially important as a

solution to our problems and it should not be hindered."

But Ewen Cameron, president of the Country Landowners' Association and a leading dairy farmer, said the legal move could be useful if it increased pressure on the Government to exempt slow-maturing beef cattle from the cull. "We believe it is extremely important that this very wholesome beef should be excluded from the ban. We were never happy with the cut-off at 30 months, which is far

too early and looks to have been a bad miscalculation."

The alliance estimates that 800,000 old dairy cows and 500,000 prime beef cattle will be withdrawn from the market and destroyed this year under the cull scheme, at a cost to the taxpayer of more than £700 million. About 50,000 cattle have been destroyed so far and are being burnt on plants.

Richard North, an adviser to the group, said: "Farmers are having to destroy perfectly sound meat and perfectly good animals. Very shortly we could be facing a serious beef shortage in Britain."

The ban on cattle older than 30 months was announced at the end of March after the disclosure by Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, that some people might have contracted the Creutzfeldt-Jakob brain condition — the human equivalent of "mad cow" disease — from eating beef infected with BSE.

Cattle over 30 months old are regarded as being more likely to be incubating BSE. Supermarkets have based their strategy for restoring beef sales on a guarantee to consumers that all the beef on their shelves comes from animals under this age.

Boy, 11, found guilty of manslaughter

An 11-year-old boy was found guilty yesterday of killing a pensioner when he dropped a 19lb slab of concrete from the top of a 12-storey tower block on to her head. It took a jury at Leeds Crown Court only 65 minutes to decide the boy, who was ten at the time, knew that what he was doing was wrong and that he was therefore guilty of the manslaughter of Edna Condie, 74, in Leeds last August.

The court was told that the boy, who had denied Mrs Condie's manslaughter, roared with laughter when a companion told him he had struck the woman. She died instantly. He later told police he had pushed the slab off "for fun" because he enjoyed being naughty. Mr Justice Potter adjourned sentence for three weeks for reports. The boy was remanded to local authority care.

Stationery deal rescued

A government deal to sell school stationery to Uzbekistan, which looked likely to cost the British taxpayer £3 million when it appeared to have fallen through, has been rescued by Stationery Office officials. After weeks of negotiations by a government team in Tashkent, the former Soviet republic agreed to pay the first instalment of £900,000 with the rest to follow during the year. Last month the National Audit Office chastised HMSO Scotland for shipping out the goods without proper safeguards to ensure payment.

Shot man had meeting

An Essex car dealer was shot twice in a classic gangland killing as he kept a rendezvous, police said yesterday. The killer then dumped John Marshall's body in his car on a south London street. Mr Marshall, 34, of Billericay, still had £5,000 in cash but a sports bag is missing. Yesterday police sources confirmed that Mr Marshall, 34, from Billericay, moved in the same circles as three Essex drug traffickers killed last December. Two men have been charged.

Majorca meningitis alert

Tourists began leaving a holiday complex in Alcudia, Majorca, after a British boy aged 13 from Sussex, and a German girl aged 11 died from meningitis after being taken ill while on holiday. Emergency supplies of vaccine are being taken out and a telephone helpline has been set up by Airtours, the main operator at the complex, for up to 500 holidaymakers who are due to arrive in the next two weeks.

Our shame, by Carey

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, right, said yesterday that religious must admit responsibilities for divided communities. Speaking in Chicago, Dr Carey pleaded for tolerance, and said: "Terrible things continue to be done in the name of religion which shames religion and makes it a disgrace." He called on leaders of all faiths to condemn atrocities by fundamentalists.



Farm in quarantine

A farm and its surrounding area in East Sussex have been quarantined after an outbreak of a serious poultry disease, the first in more than ten years. The Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday. The viral infection, known as Newcastle Disease, is highly contagious and affects pigeons and other birds as well as poultry. All the 1,700 birds on the affected farm, which is near Heathfield, will be slaughtered.

Tony Banks MP

A report in our first edition (May 8) about MPs defying the new earnings rule and register of MPs' interests stated that Tony Banks had failed to declare his interests. In fact, Mr Banks is an advocate of openness in these matters and had fully declared his interests, as all later editions made clear. We apologise for any embarrassment caused by the mistake.

Britain stonewalls

Continued from page 1
ahead for the EU police agency was to be one of the main items at the EU summit in Florence on June 21. Britain will attend ministerial meetings in Brussels next week on the single market and development, but again will refrain from endorsing any decisions.

The scale of Britain's action seemed to have sunk in across Europe yesterday, generating a backlash of public anger. While politicians rallied at what they depicted as counterproductive folly, commentators voiced shock at the virulence of the anti-continental sentiments coming from

the tabloid press and some British politicians.

The German press was especially stung by what it reported as an anti-German campaign in Britain, complete with every caricature from wartime days.

Frankfurter Rundschau said that Mr Major was panicking. Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung said the Prime Minister's ultimatum was really "a cry for help aimed at Europe". In Brussels, La Libre Belgique said the tabloids seemed to be "sowing the same seeds of madness which led Germany to Nazism".

Blocking unlikely on EMU

FROM CHARLES BRENNER
IN BRUSSELS

BRITISH officials yesterday dismissed suggestions that the Government would use its EU blocking campaign to obstruct the project for monetary union but they believe it could hold up business on some of the preparatory work.

Technical preparations for EMU are gathering pace in Brussels and Frankfurt but no government decisions are imminent. The monetary committee, the team of senior finance officials in charge of the project, is continuing to

meet. Britain's representative would be expected to note Britain's reservations on any decisions going forward for ministerial assent.

If there is no solution to the beef crisis, Britain will next month probably withhold its endorsement of an interim report on the creation of a new exchange-rate mechanism to accompany the euro's launch due in January 1999. Britain has, however, already dissented from the scheme favoured by all the other states.

If John Major turns the Florence summit, as he threatens, into a debate on beef, he

will presumably refuse to sign a planned joint statement on preparations for EMU.

In the longer term, despite its opt-out from the project, Britain will be required to give assent to the framework for denationalising bonds during the transition period and the design of the coinage that is due to be phased into circulation in six years' time.

Although British blocking could hold up a decision on that matter could wait for a year or two. A British official said the beef crisis should be over long before such decisions became urgent.

Girl says drivers sped past killer

Continued from page 1
on the BBC's *Crimewatch* programme last night, was asked to describe the killer. "He is a monster," she hoped the killer watched last night's broadcast.

"I just hope he is watching this now and looking at my face, remembering that I was pleading with him not to kill the person I loved more than anything. He just looked at me like I was dirt." She said the man, who drove off towards the Dartford Tunnel, said nothing during the incident.

Miss Cable, who wore a black jogging top and cream coloured trousers, described her feelings for Cameron, an electrician. The couple were engaged at Christmas and planned to marry within a year.

"This man has destroyed my life because Steve was my life. He was everything to me. We couldn't wait to get married. We were going to get a house together soon and we were buying things for it."

Miss Cable, from St Mary Cray, Orpington, who was accompanied by her parents

Jim and Mandy, said: "Steve woke up that morning and he told me he loved me." She began crying as she appealed for anyone with information, however trivial, to come forward.

The family of Cameron also released a photograph of him, with Miss Cable, taken the day before he died. Cameron's father, Ken, who took the photograph in the front room of the family home in Swanley, said: "The two of them were just larking about in the living room enjoying one another's company. It was a spur of the moment thing but now I realise it's the last picture of Stephen."

Miss Cable's father, who sat with a protective arm around her, praised his daughter's courage. "I think she has been very brave. We can't stop grieving until they catch this monster. They have just got to catch him as soon as possible before he does it again."

Asked what motive the killer could have had, Mr Cable said: "For what? Why did he do it? How could you kill someone like Steve?"

Asthma appeal fails

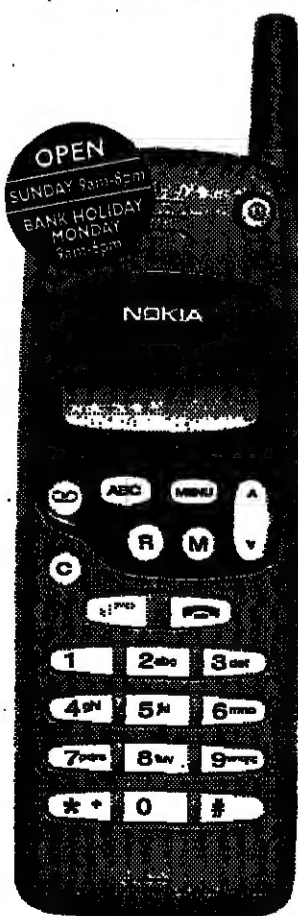
A WOMAN whose asthmatic daughter's clothes, bedding and soft toys all need daily washing, failed yesterday in a High Court attempt to have her domestic water rates cut.

Tracey Davies, from Kirkby, Merseyside, was refused leave to mount a judicial review against North West Water but Mr Justice Carnwath said companies might be obliged "as a general principle" to consider the special needs of customers when

allowing rebates. Mrs Davies's two-year-old daughter, Bethany, suffers from severe asthma and the family had found it difficult to pay its metered water bill, which was well above average.

He said North West Water had done all that was required by law in assessing the case. Mrs Davies already receives housing benefit, income support and a disability living allowance to help provide for Bethany's needs.

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Lib-Lab 'affair' costs Labour control of council

BY IAN MURRAY AND LIN JENKINS

RUMOURS of an affair between two politicians lost Labour a London council after a stormy meeting last night.

The alleged relationship between the leaders of the Labour and Liberal Democrat groups in Havering, north-east London has been blamed for a series of defections over recent weeks which eroded Labour's slim hold on power. A coalition has taken control of the 63-seat council.

The leader of the Labour group, Arthur Latham, 66, formerly MP for Paddington and chairman of the Tribune group of MPs, and Caroline Hurlstone, 49, an English teacher, have both always firmly denied the relationship.

However, Mrs Hurlstone's husband Terry said yesterday he was suing her for divorce. Mr Hurlstone, who is currently on police bail after allegedly assaulting Mr Latham in his home six weeks ago, is waiting to see if he will be prosecuted.

Mrs Hurlstone said the collapse of the ruling Labour/Lib-Dem alliance on the council was motivated by personality clashes and petty self-interest. Those responsible, she said, had "replaced the one political giant we have had with a bunch of pygmies." Mrs Hurlstone, who succeeded her husband as Liberal Democrat parliamentary candidate for Upminster, defected to Labour three weeks ago.

The rumours about an affair between herself and Mr Latham were merely a smokescreen and "absolute rubbish", she said. "The alliance had a one-vote majority on every committee. We gave Labour the ability to act as the majority group, so we worked closely."



Latham: former MP and ousted leader

She said those who defected from Labour had decided to do so before the incident between "my soon-to-be-ex-husband" and Mr Latham, which had been the origin of stories about an affair. The four councillors who resigned the Labour whip had acted "because they could not get their own way politically."

The council meeting which ended Mr Latham's rule was interrupted by Mr Hurlstone from the public gallery, and erupted into noisy challenges on all sides as members hurled abuse.

An unlikely alliance of 12 Conservatives, 17 Residents,

two Liberal Democrats and four Socialists voted to oust Mr Latham and formed a "Rainbow" coalition under the Residents' leader, Louise Sinclair.

Mr Latham's "autocratic, grandiose style helped us to topple him," Mrs Sinclair said yesterday. "His lifestyle and personal relationships steered people away from him."

Mike Davis, one of the four Labour members who walked out on Mr Latham to set up the Socialist group on the council at the end of March, said: "Policy was being formulated between the two group leaders over cosy lunches and then pushed through without any consultation with the Labour members."

After the 1994 elections, Mr Latham needed support from the Liberal Democrats to ensure his 31-strong Labour group had a majority. He said yesterday this meant he had to have a very close working relationship with Mrs Hurlstone.

She has said that she now believes that "the way forward for a progressive, anti-Tory politician is within the Labour Party".

Mrs Hurlstone's close links with Mr Latham began last October after her daughter was murdered at the Devon farm where she worked, and Mr Latham gave her support and comfort at a difficult time.

Mr Latham said yesterday that the real reason for his defeat was wide opposition to his plans to set up information centres round the borough and create a new style of local government.

Another Liberal Democrat councillor, David Parker-Ross, deserted to the Tories three weeks ago, complaining that Mrs Hurlstone spent more time with Mr Latham than with her own group.

Charles Harrison, the new Liberal Democrat leader, said he hoped the Rainbow coalition would restore calm. "If somebody wrote a book about what has happened, readers would think it was too far fetched."



Simon Snaith working yesterday on one of the plaster ceiling mouldings of the Grand Reception Room at Windsor Castle

Castle rises anew — on time and within cost

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE largest historic building restoration project this century, at Windsor Castle, is entering its final phase and is expected to be completed on time and within its projected £40 million budget, officials of the Royal Household said yesterday.

More than a hundred rooms in the castle were damaged in a disastrous fire on November 20, 1992, delivering the final punishing blow to the Queen's *annus horribilis*. The largest occupied castle in the world is expected to be fully restored to its former glory by the spring of 1998.

Journalists were yesterday given a conducted tour of the affected areas, where an army of craftsmen, working in a dense forest of scaffolding, are recreating some of the grandest and most ornate interior design in Britain.

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Accountant is charged over church funds theft

BY RUTH GLEDHILL AND STEPHEN FARRELL

A CHURCH accountant was charged yesterday in connection with the theft of nearly £240,000 donated by parishes to the London diocese. Dean Bailey, 33, will appear in court next month accused of falsifying documents and deception.

Mr Bailey from Shoreditch, east London, was employed as an assistant accountant at the diocesan fund office in central London when the alleged frauds took place between the summer of 1990 and February this year.

All the London's diocese's money is kept in the diocesan fund, which is worth £150 million. A large proportion is tied up in vicarages and other church property, but £18 million is held in trust for the diocese's 396 parishes.

New checks and balances were put into place by Chris Smith, the diocesan secretary, after he was appointed two years ago by Dr David Hope, who was then Bishop of London. These checks eventually led to discrepancies being uncovered by the diocese's auditors, Coopers & Lybrand.

Mr Bailey was questioned by police and released on police bail. Yesterday, he returned to Belgrave police station for further questioning and was charged.

He was taken on as an assistant in the accounts department in April 1990, where he worked for his father-in-law, the Rev Ronald Vaughan, the former head of the department who now works as the Bishop of Stepney's projects officer. Mr Bailey's wife Rosemary also worked for the diocese, in the parsonages department, but left when she was expecting. They have a daughter aged two.

According to the *Church Times*, the diocese suffered smaller losses in the 1980s after a similar incident.



Terry and Caroline Hurlstone. He is suing for divorce

Curry that took some beating

AN INDIAN curry seemed the perfect way to round off a pleasant evening for David Ives and his partially sighted friend Paul Hester. They ordered a beer and studied the menu but because the lighting was so subdued Mr Hester had difficulty reading it.

What happened next resembled Fawley Towers but became more serious. Bosmath Sheffi, for the prosecution, told Luton Crown Court. "A waiter asked for their order but when told they were not ready he poured their drinks away and ordered them to leave," Miss Sheffi said.

"Mr Ives tried to explain but to no avail. The waiter was joined by other staff and Mr Ives was attacked with a baseball bat. He was surrounded by people and beaten on his back, head and arm as he tried to protect himself."

"Then he was bundled out of the door and his arm was trapped as someone tried to close it," Miss Sheffi said. Mr Hester, who is registered blind, was restrained from helping his friend.

Yesterday Foyzul Islam, 30, the owner of the Dhaka Tandoori and his brother, Sirajul Islam, 33, the chef, admitted affray in August last year. They were both given a 12-month conditional discharge. Judge Gareth Davies, who awarded Mr Ives £2,000 compensation and Mr Hester £500, said: "No doubt you have troublesome customers but this was an unprovoked attack on innocent people."

Brother freed to inherit fortune

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

MARK NEWALL, jailed for helping his brother to cover up the murder of their wealthy parents, has been freed from prison only 21 months into a six-year sentence.

Newall, 29, a former Euro-bond dealer who earned £150,000 a year, will now inherit his share of his parents' fortune, which as a result of investment is understood to be worth several million pounds. The brothers had shared the £500,000 left to them by their parents plus £400,000 from a great uncle.

Newall's release from Leyhill open prison in Gloucestershire was denounced by a senior police officer who spent two years on the investigation into the murders of Nicholas and Elizabeth Newall in Jersey in 1987. The couple were bludgeoned to death by Roderick, their other son, who is serving a life sentence for murder. Mark admitted destroying evidence and helping to bury his parents' bodies secretly.

Graham Nimmo, a former detective inspector now retired from the States of Jersey Police, said yesterday that Mark Newall had cost the island and its authorities a tremendous amount of money. The investigation took longer than the time he served because of an elaborate and protracted cover-up in which he initially told "lie after lie".

Mr Nimmo added: "It's a bit galling that he's out and can do what he likes. I would have liked to see him serve at least four to four-and-a-half years."

Newall's eligibility for release earlier this month was made under the 1991 Criminal Justice Act, which operates in England and Wales but not Jersey. Anyone given a sentence of four years and over is eligible for parole after serving half their sentence. He became eligible in March because he had been in custody since being arrested three years earlier.

If he had remained in Jersey he would have been eligible for release in March next year. Jersey does not operate a parole system but well-behaved prisoners are normally released after serving two thirds of their sentence.

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Holidays grabbed while they're hot

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

A FAMILY set off for a Florida fly-drive holiday for £9 a head yesterday, as Britons demonstrated their determination to grab last-minute holidays to escape a wet and windy holiday weekend.

The family of three from Doncaster spotted the offer on Teletext from the Blackpool-based Liberty World Travel. Ian Warren, the general manager, said: "Three people had to cancel at the last moment from a charter flight. They were covered by insurance which meant they got their money back and we had been paid."

"But we were then able to offer their seats at the extremely low price of £9 and

still make a profit. We sold the holidays within 20 minutes of them appearing on the screen. There is so much capacity on the market at the moment that airlines are getting rid of their distressed stock at whatever price they can get."

The family have to pay for their accommodation, airport taxes and £69 damage-waiver car insurance.

Travel agencies around the country said that there has been a surge in demand, especially for Spain, the Balearics and Greece. Temperatures as high as 30C (86F) in the past few days appear to have been the magnet. The Going Places chain said there had been a 20 per cent jump in bookings this week when it became apparent that May was to be one of the coldest and most miserable on record. Thomas Cook said

that holidaymakers were looking for instantly available bargains.

Britain's biggest travel retailer, Lunn Poly, said that a sharp fall in the number of package holidays on offer this year meant that many potential clients flooding into their travel shops were having to be disappointed.

Heathrow Airport expects to handle about 339,000 people over the four days from today to Bank Holiday Monday. Gatwick expects 332,000. Manchester 204,000 and Birmingham 40,000. A further 350,000 people will cross the Channel by ferry, while 210,000 are expected to go through the Channel Tunnel by either Eurostar or Le Shuttle trains.

Forecast, page 24

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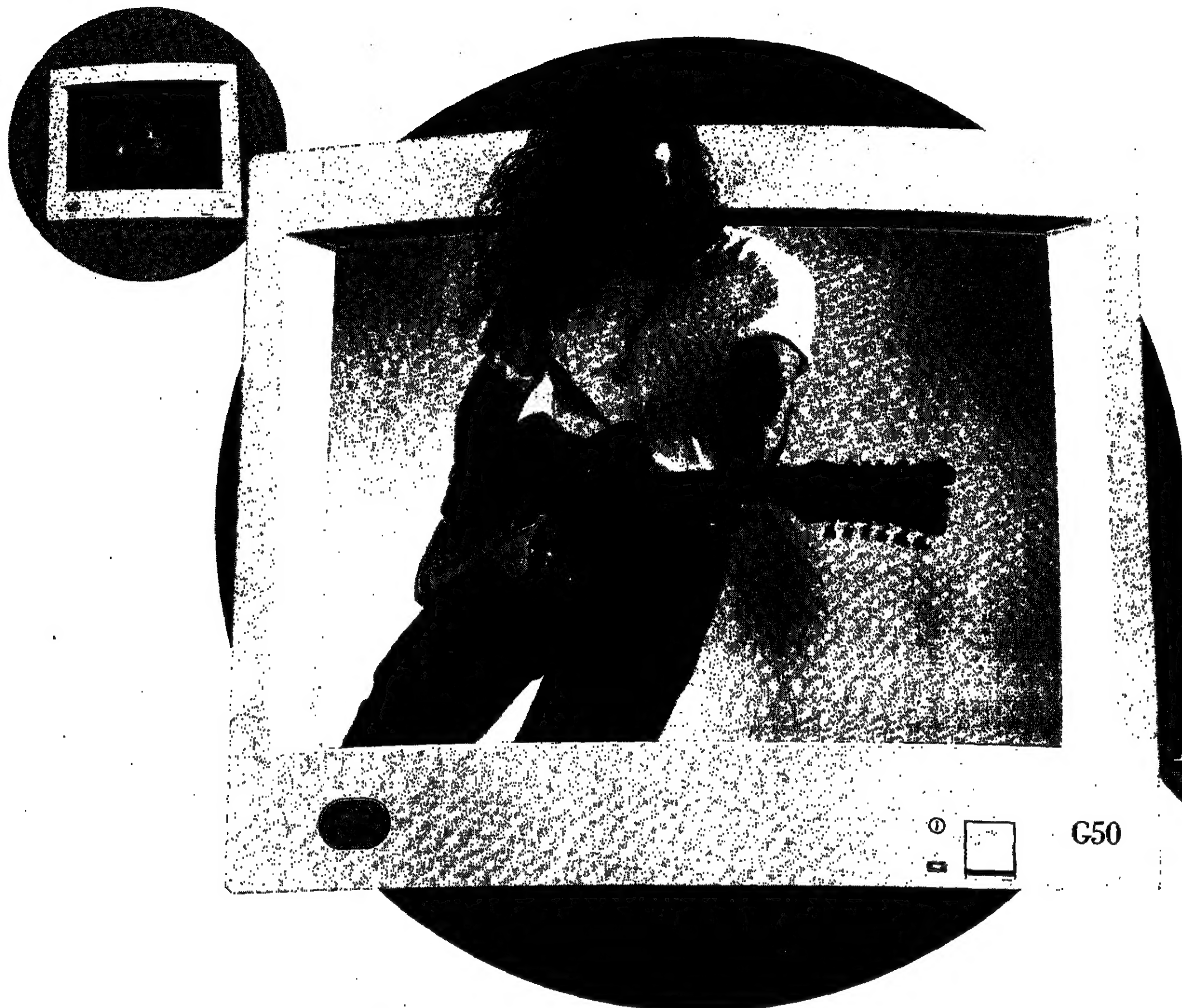
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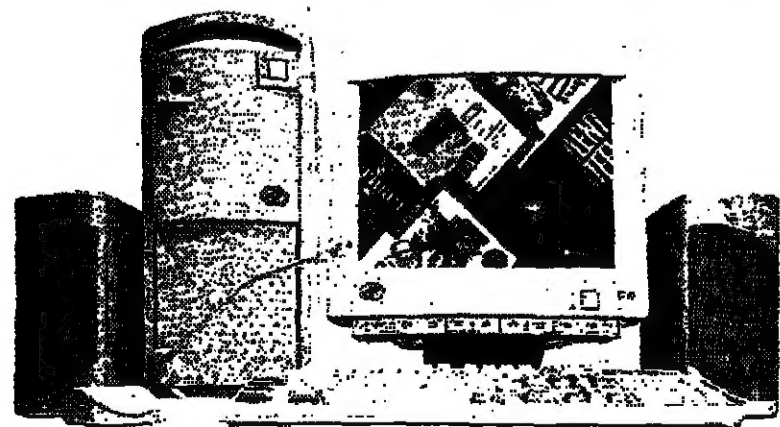


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New editor discarded executive 'like toffee paper'

By Bill Frost

THE Editor of the *Sunday Express* acted in an utterly irrational and whimsical fashion when she dismissed a highly regarded executive, an industrial tribunal chairman said yesterday.

Graham Jones, 44, had told the hearing that he was the victim of a callous, brutal cull of middle-aged men and that Sue Douglas, 39, had behaved like "King Herod in reverse — not killing the babies but all men over 35". He had been "tossed aside like a toffee wrapper" within a fortnight of her arrival in January. Despite his role as assistant editor (news), he had been told to clear his desk and go straight home on the day of his dismissal. A replacement, 40-year-old Richard Ellis, was in place an hour later.

Express Group Newspapers admitted acting improperly in the way Mr Jones was dismissed. However, his claim of sexual discrimination was dismissed by the tribunal at Croydon, south London.

Ian Lamb, the tribunal chairman, had harsh words for Ms Douglas. He told her she had been "firing and firing with complete disregard to the laws or good employment practice". She had operated as if there was no restriction on her powers at all. "We do not think she paused long enough to assemble an agenda here except to consider who she wanted around her."

"This dismissal had no rhyme or reason except the personal preference of Ms Douglas... it was utterly irrational and whimsical. She considered that Mr Jones was just not a person she wanted to work with."

Mr Jones, an Oxford graduate, who has also worked at *The Daily Telegraph* and its

Sunday stablemate, earlier told the tribunal: "This was sex discrimination. If I was a woman I would still have my job. It was a cull of middle-aged males."

"I worked extremely hard, long hours, 14 or 16-hour days for seven years. My work was consistently praised inside and outside Express Newspapers. This all came to an abrupt end two weeks after the appointment of the new editor."

Mr Jones, from Rickmansworth in Hertfordshire, who earned £62,000 a year, claimed that he was never given a reason for his dismissal or "adequate compensation" — he received a cheque for £31,875 but claimed female staff who left the paper received 12 months' salary.

"I would have been treated differently if I had been a woman. I do not have any doubts about that," he said. "I believe my sacking is part of an anti-male agenda. The *Sunday Express* has now become a paper which has no time for middle-aged male-dominated values."

Ms Douglas denied that she had sacked Mr Jones because of his age and gender. He had been sacked after a "phenomenal" decline in the paper's circulation. "It would never occur to me to judge people by their age or gender. I can only judge them on merit. I am on trial with this job too," she said.

The tribunal adjourned to allow Express Newspapers, which admitted unfair dismissal, and Mr Jones to agree a compensation package. He declined to reveal after the hearing whether he had found another job. "I think the chairman's comments about the nature of the dismissal said it all."



Gareth Potter was charged £113 for an ambulance ride after being knocked down

Patient, 4, threatened with court bailiffs

By John O'Leary, Education Editor

A HOSPITAL summonsed a boy aged four for not paying a £113 ambulance bill after he was knocked down by a car.

Gareth Potter of Pontefract, West Yorkshire, was at risk of having his toys confiscated after his mother ignored solicitors' letters, assuming there had been a mistake.

The child, who had been taken to hospital after the accident last year, was due before Pontefract County Court next month. Yesterday the proceedings were thrown out when lawyers representing Pontefract General Infirmary realised the mistake.

His mother, Veronica, 27, said that when a bailiffs' warrant for Gareth's possessions arrived, "my immediate reaction was to put his toys out so they would realise how stupid the whole episode was." She telephoned the bailiffs, who apologised and told her not to worry. She had thought the matter was forgotten when the summons arrived.

Yesterday the hospital apologised through its solicitors. "Hospitals are very busy and the odd mistake can be made," a spokeswoman said.

Teachers call for defiance on tests

A CAMPAIGN by head teachers to block the publication of the first primary school league tables was backed yesterday by the biggest school union. Governors are being urged to refuse to give the Government the results of tests on 11-year-olds which finish this week.

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, has written to governing bodies throughout England, asking them to restrict access to the results to parents and teachers. He acknowledged that such action would be a breach of their statutory duty but says that legal action by the Government was unlikely.

The grades are to be turned into league tables next March. Mr McAvoy said: "If significant numbers of governing bodies decided not to return test results, what remedies would be open to them? Ministers would find it embarrassing to take action against the very people they are asking to make the system work."

Governors are already under pressure from the National Association of Head Teachers not to pass on the results. David Hart, the

NAHT's general secretary, criticised the National Association of Governors and Managers, which has rejected its appeals, saying it was "time it stopped behaving as if it was the Government's poodle".

Many governors were as angry as their teachers when Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, changed her mind in February and decided that the results of the tests should be published next year in national performance tables.

But Mrs Shephard said yesterday that poor test results and alarming inspectors' reports left her no alternative. "The public has a right to this information," she said. The National Governors' Council has asked Mrs Shephard to abandon league tables this year.

Companies are cashing in on the squeeze in school funding by providing so-called educational resources which are biased, covered with company logos or which encourage children to eat chocolate and fast foods, the National Consumer Council said.

Education, page 39

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Nigeria promises to free British boy

By Michael Dynes

NIGERIA yielded to diplomatic pressure from the Foreign Office yesterday and promised to release a British schoolboy held prisoner for a month.

John-Paul Mokulou, 13, was arrested in Lagos while visit-



John-Paul: held in Lagos while visiting relatives

ing relatives. Officials believe that he was being held hostage to force his father, a cousin of the former president of Nigeria, to give himself up.

It is thought that John-Paul was arrested because he gave his name as Obasanjo. The Foreign Office was unable to clarify whether he was related to Major-General Olusegun Obasanjo, who ruled Nigeria from 1976 to 1979.

Christine Olukoya, the boy's mother, flew to Lagos on Wednesday to secure his release. The Foreign Office said: "We have heard from the Nigerian authorities that the boy will be released."

Glenda Jackson, the Labour MP who highlighted the plight of the north London boy, said that the family had no reason to believe that John-Paul's father was "a dissident of any kind". She denounced the "outrageous behaviour" of the Nigerian authorities.

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Sales delayed for Wembley and Old Trafford games

Euro 96 tickets withheld in mix-up over rival fans

By JOHN GOODBODY AND RICHARD FORD

TICKET sales for Euro 96 were in turmoil yesterday when about 1,000 Wembley seats destined for Dutch supporters were withheld because they were in areas reserved for English fans.

On another embarrassing day for the tournament, the organisers had to explain the problems to the Government, with Manchester United also unable to sell its full allocation of 28,100 tickets for four matches at Old Trafford because plans to segregate fans had not been completed.

Officials of the Football Association (FA) met Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, and Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, yesterday to reassure them that all tickets ordered by group purchasers were being scrutinised and "would be honoured only if it was safe to do so after the necessary checks had been made".

The Dutch have already sold their official allocation of 8,100 seats for each of their three group games but thousands more fans are trying to buy black-market tickets for the matches. The withheld tickets were for the match against England on June 18.

It is understood that none of the four English-based com-

panies offering the tickets at Wembley will be charged with any offence because they claim they were authorised to make bulk applications. The approval was allegedly given by Trevor Phillips, who resigned as commercial director of the FA two weeks ago to save the governing body "embarrassment". There is no suggestion that Mr Phillips profited from ticket sales.

Euro 96 organisers want to segregate supporters because of the potential for violence. The executives will release the 1,000 tickets for the England-Netherlands match only if the

four unnamed companies selling them can give the names and addresses in England of the purchasers. If not, the tickets will be offered for domestic sale.

The organisers have also withdrawn a further 1,000 tickets obtained by ten people, who were charged this week with routing offences. The remaining ticket agencies and corporate hospitality brokers, who were raided on April 30 by Scotland Yard detectives, will be allowed to keep their seats if the organisers are satisfied that there is no breach of security. Man-

chester United has delayed selling its remaining tickets for the championship while club officials and Euro 96 "finalised the segregation". On Tuesday, the six other clubs at whose grounds the three-week championship will be staged began selling about 170,000 seats direct to the public. Some 1.2 million tickets have so far been bought through Euro 96.

Manchester United has complained that the FA has not given clear instructions on sales. A total of 28,100 tickets remain for Germany versus Czech Republic, Russia versus Germany, and also one quarter-final and one semi-final, when fans will be buying without knowing which teams they will see.

The project co-ordinator of Synchro Systems, which is the official ticket agency for the Euro 96, has been found dead, five days after being sacked. Roderick Cornes fell to his death while climbing with a friend in Staffordshire. The police said that there was no suggestion that Mr Cornes had been distressed or upset before the climb or that he had contributed to his own death in any way.

England win, page 48



Phillips, left, and Howard: worries over ticket



Mike Harvey, right, on an earlier return to Colditz with Jack Best, left, Hugh Bruce, centre, and two other ex-POWs

PoWs honour the ghost of Colditz

By ROSIN YOUNG

A NAVAL officer who earned the nickname "the ghost of Colditz Castle" by masterminding escapes from an underground hiding-hole in the German fortress will be remembered by his fellow prisoners of war today.

Captain Mike Harvey, who died last week aged 82, and an RAF officer, Jack Best, used a double bluff. They hid inside

the jail near Leipzig in eastern Germany until the guards thought they had escaped and then emerged for roll calls to disguise the fact that other prisoners actually had got away.

Major Hugh Bruce, a former Royal Marine who with Mr Best will be among six former Colditz inmates attending a special service of thanksgiving for Mr Harvey in his home village of

Langham, Norfolk, said yesterday: "The idea was that Mike and Jack would go into hiding in the castle and be missing from the regular roll calls. After a while the Germans were fooled into thinking that they had escaped. It meant we had two extra people and when anyone really did escape they could stand in for them."

Mr Bruce added: "It was brilliantly simple and it bought extra time for those who managed to get away. The first 24 to 48 hours were vital to an escape. You needed as much time as possible before the alarm was raised to reach the railway station before suspicions were aroused. "Mike had a bloody awful time doing it. He and Jack lived underground in a tiny hole beneath a stone step in one of the accommodation blocks."

The plan helped several prisoners to get away until, after 300 days underground,

Harvey and Best were themselves caught trying to escape. Their capture left the Germans with an embarrassing problem. "They could not charge them with escaping because they were already supposed to have got away and they were caught in the courtyard of the castle. The German mind being what it is, they charged them with being absent from 1,326 roll calls instead," Mr Bruce said.

Mr Harvey, who had been captured in 1940 when his submarine HMS Undine was forced to the surface, served 28 days in solitary confinement and was eventually freed by the Americans in April 1945. He resumed his naval career, commanding HMS St Austell Bay, a frigate, and HMS Blackcap, a Royal Naval Air station, before leaving the service. He became managing director of a manufacturing company before retiring to Norfolk with his wife Jean.

Philosophic Cantona takes shot at record

By RICHARD DUCIE

MANCHESTER'S favourite Frenchman is hoping that his unorthodox words of wisdom can be put to profitable use. Eric Cantona has been signed up by the pop producer Pete Waterman to make a record.

Not that the United footballer is planning anything along the lines of *Albatross*, Fleetwood Mac's chart-topper of 30 years ago. More an experimental, avant-garde affair, says Waterman, who admits Cantona is no Sinatra.

It was after a court appear-

ance in connection with his attack on a football fan that Cantona told assembled reporters: "When seagulls follow a trawler, it is because they think sardines will be thrown into the sea."

Waterman said yesterday: "Any man who can say that is a genius." He added: "I don't think you should be looking at it as a singing project. He isn't going to be singing *My Way* or *No Regrets*, like I said. We will be using Eric's poetry, his ideology and I see it as being very experimental."

The recording deal is said to be worth £500,000.

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RADA wins £23m from lottery to rebuild academy

By DALYA ALBERGE AND BILL FROST

THE Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA) was awarded a grant of £22,750,000 yesterday from the Arts Council's lottery funds. It will go towards the £30,760,000 that the college needs to renovate and extend its dilapidated premises in Bloomsbury, central London.

Many of RADA's illustrious former students, including Sir John Gielgud, Lord Attenborough and Imogen Stubbs, recalled how the school had been crying out for funds for as long as they could remember. Any money that was ever raised was always spent on tuition, rather than a building that had never recovered from the Blitz.

Lord Attenborough, RADA's chairman, said: "The academy was bombed in 1942 — in fact, when I was a student there. Because of the war and low government funding, we simply had to make do." The news of the lottery grant had made him "delirious". He added: "If you love the place as much as I have over the last 25 to 30 years, it's a fairy story come true."

Ms Stubbs recalled that there was so little space in which to rehearse that students were relegated to performing in "a black room with a few broken windows", or outside, in Russell Square. Walls were so thin, students felt self-conscious, knowing that their performances echoed throughout the school.

But, she added, the building exuded a unique charm when she thought of actors trained there — such as Albert Finney and Peter O'Toole.

Although Ms Stubbs felt "thrilled" at RADA's good fortune, she called for lottery cash to fund student grants. Every day she received begging letters. "It would be a huge loss if only posh people who could afford to go there," she also spoke of the need for equipment. When she was a

student, there was no training for film or television because there was no money for cameras. RADA yesterday announced that the school would be re-equipped "so that future generations of actors and actresses can learn to work with the technology of the 21st century and beyond".

Sir John, a RADA student in

RADA were mixed. "Quite frankly it was a bit of joke when I was there in 1942. More importance was attached to morning prayers than drama. I was one of only 13 men and there were 200 girls, so I had rather a good time. But, as for my dramatic education, that came later," he said.

Among other leading actors who welcomed the news was Jeremy Irons, a Bristol Old Vic graduate who has just returned from filming *Lolita*. "Any money that goes towards the training of actors is good," he said.

Duncan Weldon, director of the Chichester Festival Theatre, said: "It is good news to hear that lottery money is going towards securing the future of a drama school — which then secures the future of British theatre."

The producer Thelma Holt, who studied at RADA in the mid-1950s, remembered how "in the summer, it was either a sauna bath or you couldn't hear anything because there was no way of cutting out the noise from the street". When she talked to today's students, nothing had changed. "You can't work in the theatre and not go to RADA."

Nicholas Barter, the Principal of RADA, defended the grant against the charge that it was a windfall for "lucky" southerners. The academy was for people of all classes and backgrounds, he said.

"We're drawing people in from all over the country — we hold auditions in Manchester, Nottingham, Newcastle and Belfast. We're drawing new blood into the theatre and we're looking for people from homes across the social spectrum."



Barter: defended grant against "lucky" charges

the early 1920s, said: "I'm so glad they have got out of their troubles. It's a very good school. I learnt a lot from being there."

Bryan Forbes, the actor and director, welcomed news of the grant but suggested that at least some of the money should go towards reducing fees, now about £7,000 a year. He also received letters every week from young hopefuls asking for financial support. "It is very sad. Rather than spending all the money on refurbishment RADA should think seriously about cutting fees."

His own memories of



Moment for reflection: dark-suited Anthony Airey — great-grandson of the founder — with Frederick Perry, a director and head cutter

Tropical tailors face the unkindest cut

By JOE JOSEPH

THE sun is setting on a name that helped the British to keep their cool in the hottest international affairs.

In days of empire, the reason why Englishmen could manage to join mad dogs in the midday sun was probably because they were all wearing natty, tropical safari suits from Airey & Wheeler. But not for much longer.

After 113 years, a closure date of June 29 has been set for the gents' outfitter in Piccadilly, London, which ran up lightweight suits for Winston Churchill when he visited Oran's yacht in the 1960s, which has killed out a fleet of foreign secretaries, clothed colonial administrators who detest a siesta, and which is almost the official uniform-supplier to the Foreign Office.

"We went into administration in January," said Anthony Airey, whose great-grandfather James was the shop's founder. "The recession had finally got to us."

"I don't think the market for these clothes has gone. It's just that money has been very tight in the last few years. And we were particularly

AIREY & WHEELER

affected by the Gulf War. That cut down a lot of travel to that area. A lot of our customers are men buying tropical clothes with their company allowances, and when the recession came, that was one of the ways those companies saved money."

The shop's business managed to grow even as the British Empire was

in decline after the war, he added. "Air travel increased through the 1950s, boosting the demand for lightweight suits from businessmen, who were travelling more, and further. And, of course, foreign holidays were becoming more widespread."

Airey & Wheeler's success grew from suit fabric weighing about 7oz a

yard — half the weight of high street suiting. This helped to ensure, as Noel Coward put it, "that though the English are effete, they're quite impervious to heat".

The sort of short-sleeved safari suit that adventurers such as Simon Templar might have worn on one of his more exotic foreign exploits sells for £103 upwards.

A wash-and-wear lightweight suit — perfect for expats who like to stint on their dry-cleaning bills, or busy types who like to dress and shower at the same time — costs from £175 to £415. All closing-down prices are 35 per cent off.

"A lot of Foreign Office people come here," says Mr Airey. "They were quite horrified when they heard we were closing down."

"When he was foreign secretary, John Major came to buy suits from us. The Duke of York came to us in 1979. And Prince Edward just walked in off the street. Alan Whicker has been here. We made Nigel Lawson some clothes a few years ago, and Lord Tonypanody. There have been several foreign secretaries here over the years. David Owen still comes in occasionally."



Customers: the Duke of York, Lord Tonypanody and Lord Owen

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Army veteran tried to murder gay man in 'revenge attack'

BY RICHARD DUCE

A FORMER soldier developed such a hatred of homosexuals after he was raped by a colleague while serving in the Army that he tried to murder a man who picked him up in a bar, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

George Rees was jailed for life with a recommendation that he serve at least ten years before parole was considered. Rees, who left The Blues and Royals cavalry regiment over 20 years ago claiming he was frequently bullied and abused, admitted the attempted murder of Tony Grundy.

He told police he also wanted to kill Michael Cashman, the actor who has campaigned for the Armed Forces to end its ban on homosexuals, and claimed to have kicked to death a gay man in Amsterdam, although this was never verified.

Peter Kyte, for the prosecution, said that Rees, 39, had met Mr Grundy in a bar one Sunday last October and was invited back to his home at the Barbican in London. Once there, he turned on his middle-aged host, forcing him to undress, then tied him up and stabbed him three times in the back.

Rees had told his victim: "You are bleeding to death."

You won't die yet — you have 20 minutes. Your only chance is to give me cash."

Mr Kyte said that having forced Mr Grundy to reveal his bank pin number, Rees fled with his gold watch, his wallet, credit cards and apartment keys. Mr Grundy managed to stagger for help, having lost four pints of blood.

Rees, formerly from Moss Side, Manchester, who was on the run from prison where he was serving six years for robbery, was arrested several weeks later in Windsor and confessed his crime. He told police he had been aiming for Mr Grundy's heart and was amazed he had survived.

"I just snapped. I was absolutely raging. In my heart of hearts I had done something which I knew had been coming for a long time."

"After the stabbing I felt a great sense of relief. He epitomised everything I had gone through 20 years ago."

He claimed he was prepared to kill as many gay men as possible, adding: "They will never be safe from me."

Sandra Stanfield, for Rees, said: "He recognises he is a danger to society, a danger to a certain part of the population."

Had Rees not confessed his crime, "perhaps the court

here would be dealing with a serial murderer."

Judge Hawkins told Rees: "It is obvious that you are a very dangerous man. The fact that you are extremely dangerous to the public should be remembered many years hence by those who have responsibility for your future."

As he was led from the dock, Rees turned to the judge, smiled and said: "Perhaps I will be out in time for Manchester City to come back to the Premier League. Thank you. Have a nice day."

Rees, who joined the Army in 1973 and left in 1975, spent 20 weeks in detention and 12 weeks absent without leave. An MoD spokesman said he was regarded as "highly maladjusted". He had made no allegations about homosexuality, which would have been investigated.

After learning of Rees's feelings Mr Cashman, the former EastEnders actor who is head of the gay rights group Stonewall, said: "I have had an occasional brick through my window and the occasional threat, but the fact that somebody might be out to murder you makes you wonder what sort of world it is where people are so twisted against lesbians and gay men."

Challenge changes stripes into a star ride

CHALLENGED that he could not tame a zebra, Gary Witherford, a stables owner, has broken a three-year-old stallion and claimed that within three hours it was able to be ridden.

Yesterday Mr Witherford, 36, of Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire, said: "Given the right approach anything can be trained and tamed — now I'm going to try to ride a giraffe."

He has worked with horses since the age of 12 and has always been fascinated by exotic wildlife. So when Chipperfield's Circus offered him the chance to train a wild zebra he agreed immediately. However, Mr Witherford, who is 6ft and weighs 13 stone, was too heavy to ride Mombassa and had to hand over the reins to Nicky Davies, 5ft. "I would have loved to have ridden him myself," Mr Witherford said, "but I'm far too tall and heavy. But I have achieved a lifelong ambition by getting someone else to ride a zebra."

"Mombassa was surprisingly easy to train and it only took me three hours to actually get someone to ride him. The secret to training any wild animal is eye contact and body language."

"Once they recognise you are the master and you've established trust through eye contact they will do whatever you want."



Nicky Davies on the young stallion Mombassa

Teenage demands for sex 'lead to abuse'

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

INCREASING numbers of young people are being coerced into sexual activity, doctors say. An era of sexual licence is encouraging behaviour that crosses the boundary to instances of abuse, with teenagers submitting to sexual activity only to avoid rejection or to conform to social pressures.

A survey of 1,100 adolescents aged 13 to 17 found one in three girls and one in ten boys said they had been subjected to a sexual experience without their consent ranging from indecent exposure to intercourse. One in 20 girls and one in 100 boys said they had had forced sexual intercourse.

A third of those reporting such an experience said it had occurred with another teenager aged under 18. Among the girls, three quarters of unwanted sexual experiences involving physical contact were with men under 35.

The findings from the survey, carried out in Geneva, conform with those from other countries. In Britain, a study of adults last year by the NSPCC found that a quarter of women and one in ten men said they had been subjected to "sexual interference" as adolescents and in 30 per cent of cases the abuser was under 16.

Writing in the *British Medical Journal*, Dr Daniel Halperin, a specialist at L'Hôpital des Enfants, Geneva, who carried out the study, said that teenagers as well as adults perpetrated child sex abuse. The study "suggests that for a sizeable minority of adolescents there is a rougher, possibly even traumatic side to sexual exploration". Further study of the "complex dating and sexual behaviour" of adolescents was needed.

Speaking yesterday, Dr Halperin said that comments by the girls in the survey "suggest that what one partner sees as seductive behaviour may be seen by the other as breaching the limits of seductivity. Young males believe that love and romance might allow them to be more than persuasive and indulge in a rougher kind of sexual activity. The girl may not be able to resist because she wants to preserve the relationship or to conform to social pressures."

"Television and magazines indirectly encourage teenagers to perform all kinds of sexual acts which are presented as common, but very little is said about the right to refuse," Michelle Elliott, of Kidscape, a charity that seeks to prevent child abuse through educating teachers and parents, said the findings accorded with experience in Britain.

Mother's rapist stalked second woman

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A RAPIST who attacked a mother in front of her two children in a country lane is thought to have stalked another woman minutes earlier. Police revealed details yesterday as they issued a composite picture of the wanted man.

Detective Chief Inspector Tony Porter, who is leading the search, said that shortly before the attack a woman in her forties had got off a bus at the end of the lane near Buckton Vale in Tameside, Greater Manchester.

"She became aware she was being followed and doubled back," he said. "She had a very good look at the man, who had a very similar description to the rapist."

The victim, aged 28, was attacked on Monday afternoon as she walked with her son, aged two, and six-month-old daughter. The rapist threatened her with a knife which had an eight-inch serrated blade.

The mother succumbed only when she thought he would



Wanted: the rapist

attack the children. She helped to compile yesterday's E-fit picture.

The rapist is described as white, aged 20-25, 5ft 6in tall, slim, with short dark hair and bushy eyebrows. He wore a camel-coloured fleece zippered jacket, blue jeans and walking boots with yellow top trim.

A man wanted in connection with two attacks on a teenage student was named by police yesterday as Yousef Ali, 23. Detectives believe that he is obsessed with the girl, whom he once knew casually.

The 19-year-old victim was raped twice in six hours at her home in Colchester, Essex. Eight days later she was beaten up at home and left unconscious.

Ali is described as 6ft tall, of Indian or Pakistani appearance, slim-built with short black hair, smartly dressed and well-spoken, and driving a black or dark blue VW Golf convertible. He is thought to live in North London, and may use other names.

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Mother's rapist stalked second woman

Suspicion falls on fishermen as RSPCA prepares to make use of tougher penalties

Men with clubs caught on film near seal killings

By PAUL WILKINSON

A PHOTOGRAPH of three men carrying clubs, taken shortly before grey seals were found battered to death on coastal rocks, was being studied by RSPCA officials yesterday.

The illegal killing of at least seven seals at the resort of Filey in east Yorkshire over the past month has enraged many local people. Suspicion has fallen on local fishermen, who often complain that seals

take the salmon they rely on for a living.

Fishermen's organisations along the coast have declined to comment on the deaths. Several residents have telephoned the RSPCA with possible identities of the culprits. One provided the snapshot of the three men.

The RSPCA officer leading the investigation, Deputy Chief Inspector Geoff Edmond, said: "We will check

these tips out and examine the photograph very closely. At the moment I am gathering evidence and I hope soon to be able to present a file to the police for further action."

"The people responsible for this should know they are not just facing a fine of a few pounds. Under the new Wild Mammals (Protection) Act, which became law only last month, they could be fined up to £5,000 and jailed for six months."

The seal carcasses have been found on and around Filey Brigg, a rocky promontory that juts several hundred yards out to sea from the resort's extensive beaches. Several had been bludgeoned to death, one had been slit open along its stomach and another ripped with a fisherman's gaff, a large hook on a long pole used for landing big fish.

"These are classic cases of what the new law was introduced to prevent," Mr Edmond said. "Whatever the rights and wrongs of seals taking fish, this is no way for any animal to die. It is sickening what has been done

to them. The Act specifically says these are unlawful ways of killing."

"My immediate concern is to ensure no more killings take place. The Brigg is a popular place for seals to take a rest but it is also easy for the killers to get at them."

"I know fishermen are always complaining about los-

Marie Sweeting yesterday above Filey Brigg, where she had been walking before alerting wildlife officials

ing fish to seals, but this is not a normal occurrence. Clearly someone somewhere does not like seals."

The alarm was raised by a woman out walking with her teenage daughter on the Brigg, Marie Sweeting, 45, told wildlife experts at the Sea Life Centre, seven miles away in Scarborough, which called

in the police and the RSPCA.

Mrs Sweeting said that she saw three men with bait and heavy sticks. "One of them said words to the effect that they were going to 'see to the seals.'"

She took her daughter away immediately but when her friend Damon Taylor visited the site the next day, he found

a seal dead on the rocks with its head battered in.

Simon Foster of the centre has seen five dead animals. He said: "I have seen some severe injuries inflicted on animals by the sea, but in all my years in working with seals I have never seen anything like this. It was barbarous."

Spall's brother Richard, who runs a pub in Guildford, Surrey, said: "This is a family thing. There is no reason for the public to know any more."

The actor's illness was made public this week when he failed to attend the Cannes Film Festival, where the Mike Leigh film *Secrets and Lies*, in which he has a leading role, won the Palme d'Or.

Film star is likely to make perfect recovery

By A STAFF REPORTER

FAMILY and friends of the actor Timothy Spall said yesterday that they expected him to recover fully from his serious illness.

The television, film and stage star is in hospital for what his agent, Peter Froggatt, called "extensive treatment". Mr Froggatt refused to confirm a report that doctors had diagnosed leukaemia.

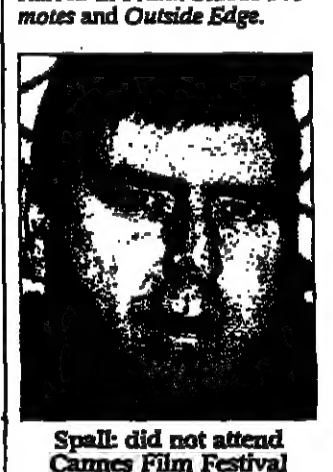
"Tim and his family decided they did not want to go into details," he said. "Tim is fine and in good spirits, but he has been in hospital for a few days. We expect him to make a perfect recovery but we can't say how long it will take."

The statement issued by the family said that they appreciated the public's interest but wanted his privacy to be respected. It added: "Peace and quiet is essential for his well being."

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The actor's illness was made public this week when he failed to attend the Cannes Film Festival, where the Mike Leigh film *Secrets and Lies*, in which he has a leading role, won the Palme d'Or.

Spall, 39, is married with three children and lives in Forest Hill, south London. He specialises in playing ordinary characters and first found fame as boring Barry from Birmingham, a builder in *Auf Wiedersehen Pet*. He also starred in *Frank Stubbs Promotes and Outside Edge*.



Spall: did not attend Cannes Film Festival

Daily drug offers lucky break for victims of fragile bones

The bent old woman, stick in hand, who taps her way along the pavement is all too likely to have been the petite student that 50 years earlier enthralled her contemporaries with her appearance and prowess on the games field and dance floor.

Post-menopausal osteoporosis can reduce the nimblest gymnast to incapacity in later life. Women athletes, because of the hormonal upset those sporting activities produce, are particularly liable to suffer badly from osteoporosis. Fragility of the bones plagues most older women after their oestrogen supplies have failed at the menopause. Men too suffer from osteoporosis but usually it starts at a later age. Osteoporosis is more than an in-

convenience that makes it difficult for older women to reach the upper kitchen shelves or gives them a disabling chronic backache. It is also a killer, because a fragile bone is liable to fracture. A broken hip not only means a long period in hospital but all too often leads to lethal complications. In one recent survey a fifth of women who had had a fractured hip died within a year.

Rheumatologists, orthopaedic surgeons and experts from a host of allied specialties gathered in Amsterdam this week for a meeting of the World Congress on Osteoporosis. One of the papers delivered was on the use of Fosamax alendronate in the prevention of hip, spine, wrist and other fractures. Fosamax is taken by mouth as a once-daily dose

for several years. Hormone replacement therapy (HRT) is a standard way of preventing osteoporosis; it has the advantage of reducing the incidence of heart disease and possibly strokes, as well as loss of bone density and fragility, but the disadvantage of increasing the likelihood of breast cancer.

Fortunately the proportion of women who will develop breast cancer is small. But in up to a third of those treated, the advantages of

HRT have to be weighed against irritability and irrational behaviour which it induces in this minority of women every month.

Fosamax is an alternative to HRT. Regrettably it does not have a beneficial effect on heart disease or strokes or preserve a youthful genitalia, but it does not increase the chance of breast cancer or cause regular vaginal bleeding - and hence there is no FMT. It has only been used for a comparatively few

years but apart from the occasional case of indigestion does not seem to cause serious side-effects.

It may prove to be of an immense advantage to those women who are either reluctant to take HRT or for whom it is not recommended because of a family history of breast disease or ovarian cancer.

An important aspect of the research reported in Amsterdam was that an American trial in which Fosamax was given to more than 2,000 women between 55 and 80 showed that it had a dramatic effect on the fracture rate. Women taking Fosamax had a 46 per cent reduction in the rate of spinal fractures, a 51 per cent lower risk of a hip fracture and a 44 per

cent reduction in wrist fractures. In addition the women lost height at half the rate of their contemporaries.

As at least a third of European women will develop a fracture after the menopause that can be attributed to osteoporosis, time may well show that Fosamax becomes a drug that is considered for use in all those cases for those women who are unable to have HRT.

Trials are now under way to study its effect in men, so that in a few years the spectacle of the once athletic rowing giant who shrivels to the size of a jockey may pass into history.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD



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Americans seize Chinese in arms smuggling 'sting'

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

FEDERAL agents arrested representatives of China's two main government arms companies in California yesterday after an 18-month 'sting' operation and America's biggest seizure of smuggled automatic weapons.

Beginning on Wednesday night, nearly 100 federal agents fanned out across San Francisco to capture the Chinese dealers and their American associates and to charge them with smuggling into the United States 2,000 automatic AK47 rifles worth \$4 million (£2.65 million) on the black market. Jamie Gorelick, the Deputy Attorney-General, called the Chinese arms ring a very serious matter and seven men were due to appear in court last night.

The 'sting' was led by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), which duped the Chinese into believing they were selling weapons to American gangs. The Chinese apparently were also offering anti-aircraft missiles and explosives. They promised 'all the weapons you could ever imagine', one federal source said.

The dealers worked for Poly Technologies and Norinco, two pillars of China's military-industrial complex with close

ties to the country's political and military leadership. The president of Poly Technologies was for several years He Ping, son-in-law of China's supreme leader, Deng Xiaoping.

It was not clear immediately whether the dealers were acting with Peking's approval or freeloading for personal profit, but one source noted that they were 'people in a position to deliver substantial arms and are no lower-level flunkies'. Either way the arrests were bound to exacerbate Sino-American tensions and complicate further President Clinton's efforts to win congressional approval for continuing China's preferential trading status.

The two countries are on the brink of a trade war over Chinese piracy of American music, films and software, and on Wednesday the Administration said that it had protested vigorously against Chinese attempts to buy lethal Russian missile technology that would enable it to threaten American cities.

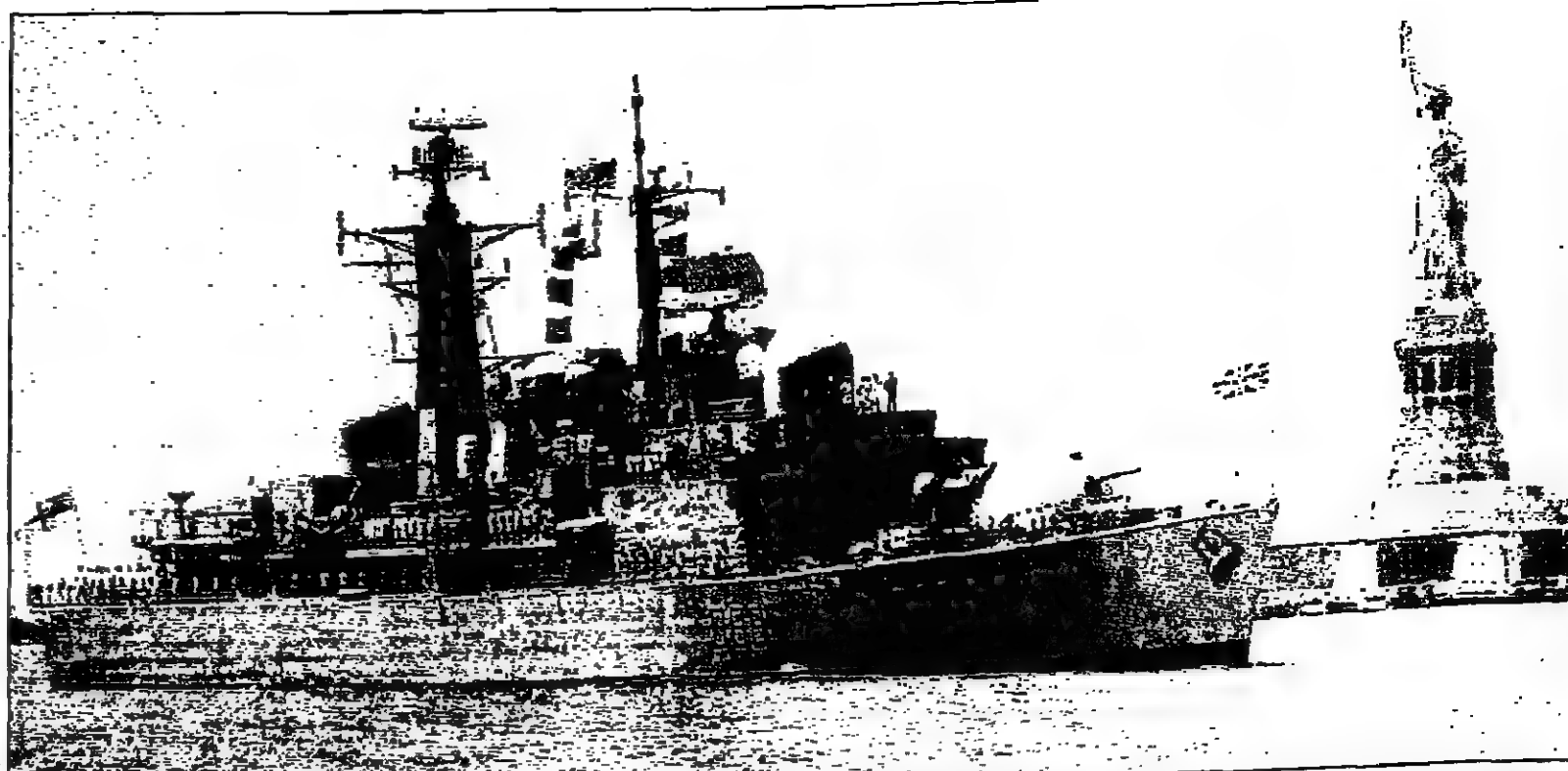
'It is hard to know if it is worse that they are trying to buy nuclear weapons technology or sell guns on American streets,' an exasperated State Department official said. 'Either way they do not make it

any easier for us to stabilise the relationship.'

The 'sting' began in 1994 when federal agents in San Francisco set out to discover how gangs obtained their illegal weapons: they were told the answer was Chinese arms suppliers. That December an ATF agent posing as a Miami arms smuggler was said to have been introduced to one of the arrested dealers, Hammond Ku. Two months later Mr Ku produced five automatic weapons to prove he could deliver on a promise of machineguns, rocket launchers and other weapons.

In January and February this year, the ATF wired nearly \$270,000 via Hong Kong to a Peking account as a down-payment. On March 18, a Chinese vessel steamed into Oakland harbour, where it unloaded 112 wooden crates containing the AK47s. The ATF tipped off US Customs, which let the crates through, and a few days later paid the balance.

The ATF had intended to continue the operation in order to lure more senior Chinese officials to America, but brought it to a premature close when the Los Angeles Times and The New York Times got wind of it.



A Type 42 destroyer, HMS Glasgow, sails past the Statue of Liberty and up the Hudson River yesterday for the start of New York's Fleet Week. Among Royal Navy ships accompanying her were the aircraft carrier HMS Illustrious and the frigate HMS Cumberland. British Harrier jump jets will give a public display tomorrow. Some crew members had different interests: 'Women, pubs and clubs,' said one

Netanyahu vows to send troops into West Bank

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

BINYAMIN NETANYAHU, right-wing challenger for the post of Israeli Prime Minister in Wednesday's election, made clear yesterday that if elected he would order Israeli security forces to re-enter Arab-run areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip now policed by armed Palestinian police.

The hardline pledge came in interviews with the Likud leader and the incumbent Labour Prime Minister, Shimon Peres, published to mark the Jewish holiday of Shavuot. It has

raised fresh fears that a Likud victory could spark fighting between Israeli troops and the Palestinian police, many of whom have pledged to resist attempts by the Israeli Army to return to autonomous areas evacuated under terms of the 1993 peace accord.

'All hell will break loose. It means the end of the peace process as we know it,' Shlomo Avineri, a respected former director-general of the Foreign Ministry, said when asked what a Netanyahu victory would bring.

Questioned by the mass-circulation Yediot Ahronot how he would live up to his campaign promise to improve

the security of Israelis, whose lives have been shattered by a series of Islamic suicide bombs, Mr Netanyahu said: 'Perhaps we do not have an absolute answer, perhaps we do not have the ability to seal hermetically the entrance of an individual terrorist, but we have the power to change the reality in which we live. Terror has succeeded in the last four years because the Government has provided it city sanctuaries, with the help of the Palestinian Authority.'

The paper then asked: 'Will you go into Nabulus [the largest Palestinian-controlled city in the West Bank] and

the Gaza Strip?' Mr Netanyahu, whose Cabinet would include such noted hawks as former generals Ariel Sharon and Rafael Eitan, replied: 'Definitely.'

In a contrasting interview, Mr Peres offered a different prospect to voters, at least 10 per cent of whom are still 'undecided'. Mr Peres said: 'I have a doubt about whether a peace agreement can be reached with Syria without returning to them all of the Golan Heights. In any event, we have always said that we are prepared to make territorial compromises on the Golan Heights.'

Rodents feel the wind of change

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN AMARILLO, TEXAS

USING a vacuum truck to suck prairie dogs from their holes, a pest control company is making a profitable round-up of the burrowing rodents which are prized as pets in Japan.

'These little guys are worth \$700 (£460) apiece,' said Gay Balfout, a co-owner of the company Dog Gone and inventor of the special vacuum.

Workers captured between three and four dozen prairie dogs yesterday using the vacuum, which noisily pulls the animals through a wide hose and into an enclosure. The vacuum pulls up lighter animals, leaving heavier adults alone.

'We're just taking the young ones,' said company co-owner Dave Honaker. 'They make good pets - they're real trainable and social animals.' The company



Prairie dog: sucked by vacuum from ground

has been capturing the squirrel-like rodents, which grow to about a foot long, for five years.

An exotic pet dealer who made a deal with an Amarillo landowner is marketing the prairie dogs, which are being sucked from a 320-acre tract near this Texas city.

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Yours faithfully,

Anil Gill (Miss)



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FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

Mr Asahara faces murder charges for the June 1994 gassing. Last month he made his initial court appearance on

Later he appeared to doze off as prosecutors read from a long statement detailing their case. One of his lawyers poked him from behind to rouse him.

The trial is expected to take years to conclude and, if convicted on murder charges, the nearly blind religious leader could go to the gallows.

Mr Asahara's next court appearance is set for June 20.



land's harbour side. New coins appeared last year, with the Queen's head replaced by the banyan orchid, the "national flower". The change is in line with action by several of the colony's institutions, though not the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club, which have abandoned the "royal" in their titles.



BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

Although the ministry has not yet decided which ships will be involved, it is expected that a destroyer or frigate with advanced communications equipment will command the evacuation programme, assisted by a landing ship — such as the Royal Fleet Auxiliary vessels *Sir Lancelot* or *Sir Tristram* — and a second support frigate. The with-

The garrison on the British colony consists of about 1,400 army personnel. The resident battalion, the 1st Battalion Royal Gurkha Rifles, is due to be replaced by the 1st Battalion Staffordshire Regiment in November. The last regiment

The three warships delegated to carry out the Hong Kong withdrawal will be part of Ocean Wave 97, codename for the deployment of a naval task force, led by the aircraft carrier, *HMS Illustrious*. The dozen ships involved will leave in January and will not return until August.

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WORLD SUMMARY

Cyprus role for envoy

London: Sir David Hannay, Britain's former permanent representative to the United Nations, has been appointed a special representative for Cyprus (Michael Binyon writes). Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, in making the announcement, said the status quo on the island, divided between Greek and Turkish communities, was inherently unstable and a concerted peace effort was needed.

French strike hits Eurostar

Paris: The Eurostar train service between Paris and London was disrupted by striking rail workers demanding a shorter working week (Ben Macintyre writes). Several Eurostar trains were blocked from entering the Gare du Nord as rail workers occupied the lines, forcing passengers to make the final leg of the journey by Metro.

Saudis reject retaliation

London: Saudi Arabia has agreed to put to one side its anger with Britain over Muhammad al-Masari, the dissident physicist (Michael Binyon writes). Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, said the Government had received assurances that the Riyadh regime would not discriminate against British firms.

Help sent to French troops

Paris: France has flown armoured vehicles and other heavy equipment on board chartered cargo planes to back up its troops fighting an anti-government rebellion in the Central African Republic, military sources said. An estimated 2,500 French troops live in the former colony. (Reuters)

Cuba traders face US ban

Miami: Washington is warning executives of foreign firms trading with Cuba that they could soon lose the right to enter the US as the Cuban Liberty Act, passed in March, is enforced (David Adams writes). Benetton, the Italian clothing company, is on the blacklist.

Indian guns force Kashmir voters to the ballot box

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN BARAMULA

THE Kashmir Valley's first elections in seven years yesterday undermined India's promise of a free and fair poll. People were forced out of their homes by soldiers and ordered to vote, producing an artificially high turnout. Most polls in Kashmir have been manipulated; this was no different.

Voters told the same story from polling station to polling station where long queues formed, watched by large numbers of soldiers or paramilitary forces. Villagers said they were forced out of their homes at gunpoint and warned by troops that they were expected to vote. People went to polling stations to obtain an indelible inkmark on their finger so they could prove they had done so.

India was determined to achieve a substantial voter turnout as proof that Kashmiri Muslims wished to remain Indian, but instead it has raised tensions in the valley with another farcical election. Voters had a choice only of pro-India parties and were thus not cajoled into voting in any particular way; the 30 parties in the valley supporting secession from India boycotted the poll.

Most of the valley was shut down, save for the polling process, because of a strike ordered by militants demonstrating their continuing hold

over the population despite losing much of their support because of involvement in rapes and extortion. There is little militant activity any more inside Kashmir because of intense security operations. Baramula and Anantnag voted yesterday; Srinagar, capital of the valley, votes next week. The official turnout in Baramula was last night put at 35 per cent and in Anantnag at 43 per cent. In parliamentary polls in 1989 the figures were around 5 per cent, a measure of how great the forced voting was this time.

The seats are unimportant in the struggle to form a government in Delhi after an inconclusive general election, but they are a crucial test of popular opinion in a region that has caused two wars between India and Pakistan. The blatant harassment of voters will play into Pakistan's hands; it is a propaganda disaster for India.

In the town of Baramula about 1,000 people took to the streets chanting anti-election and anti-India slogans, a rare mass protest in a region saturated with security forces. Kashmiris complain of being trapped between two sets of guns: those of the security forces and those of the militants. The former ordered them to vote, the latter said they should not do so. Posters

appeared in Baramula last week warning that anybody who voted would suffer dire punishment. It was signed Afghan Commandos, a small militant organisation.

Many people who refused to vote said they feared visits from security forces today to check if they had an inkmark on their fingers. "If they don't find the mark, we will be beaten. They will be very angry. This election is a farce," a local doctor said.

"Nobody wants to vote because that would legitimise India's occupation of Kashmir. Every man, woman and child is crying for *azadi* (freedom). We want our independence back," he said.

It is unofficially estimated that India has 350,000 security forces in Kashmir, including those guarding the 1949 ceasefire line which divides the former kingdom between India and Pakistan. Officially another 50,000 were drafted in for the election; the real figure is probably double that.

The militant movement in Kashmir is in chaos because of the introduction of officially sponsored counter-insurgency groups that have gone on a killing spree to wipe out activists from separatist organisations. Most of the killing now is Kashmiri against Kashmiri; the armed forces are able to take a back seat.



President Clinton and Helmut Kohl shake hands before their meeting at Milwaukee City Hall yesterday

Clinton and Kohl send summit signal

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton and Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, yesterday openly endorsed President Yeltsin in his tough battle for re-election against the Communist Gennadi Zyuganov on June 19.

Casting diplomatic niceties aside, Herr Kohl said he supported those that pursued reform and wanted to open Russia up and continued: "I do hope the present President will win." Mr Clinton

was only marginally more restrained, saying he believed Mr Yeltsin and other reformers represented the future and "we hope the Russian people will vote for the future". But it was far from clear that their highly unusual intervention in Russian affairs would actually help Mr Yeltsin. It could assist Mr Zyuganov by fuelling Russian nationalist sentiment.

The two men agreed during their meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to adhere to the December deadline for withdrawing the US-led international

peacekeeping force from Bosnia, whether or not that country had achieved stability. They also discussed strong European objections to US plans to impose sanctions on foreign companies doing business with Iran and Libya. Mr Clinton and Herr Kohl were speaking at a joint press conference during what was quickly dubbed the "sausage summit". After the conference, the two were going to what promised to be a formidable lunch.

Leading article, page 21

Clinton pledges to ban gay marriages

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

PRESIDENT CLINTON has enraged America's homosexuals, among his strongest supporters in 1992, by saying that he intends to sign a Republican Bill outlawing same-sex "marriages".

"This is capitulation to religious-political extremists," the Human Rights Campaign, America's main homosexual pressure group, said. The group withdrew an invitation to George Stephanopoulos, a White House adviser, to address a San Francisco dinner.

The Defence of Marriage Act, co-sponsored by Bob Dole, was "a ploy by the floundering Dole-for-President campaign to drive a wedge between the gay community and President Clinton", the protesters said, "and it is very disappointing that he has felt the need to take the politically expedient way out."

David Mixer, a California fundraiser and one of Mr Clinton's most prominent

homosexual supporters, called the President's decision "nauseating and appalling... an act of political cowardice".

The White House said that Mr Clinton's decision was based on personal conviction, but it was undoubtedly influenced by the public roasting he suffered for his early attempt to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military. In recent months Mr Clinton has been presenting himself as a champion of centrist, mainstream values and he was not going to let his Republican foes put him "back in his liberal box" by vetoing this Bill.

Mr Clinton won an estimated six million homosexual votes in 1992, nearly 15 per cent of his total. The gay vote is particularly important in the key electoral state of California, but the White House appears to have calculated that homosexuals have nowhere else to go.

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Agent 'was filmed passing secrets to British diplomats'

By RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW AND MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

A RUSSIAN diplomat accused of spying for Britain was reportedly caught red-handed by Russian counter-intelligence officers using high-tech communications equipment to pass secrets to British diplomats in Moscow.

In an account of the latest spying row between Russia and Britain, the weekly newspaper *Argumenty i Fakty* reported an extraordinary tale of espionage straight from the pages of an Ian Fleming novel.

Citing sources at the Federal Security Service (FSB), the newspaper claimed that the middle-ranking Russian diplomat, who is being held at the maximum-security Lefortovo prison in Moscow, is the son of a Russian ambassador serving in a European capital.

The spy was apparently equipped with a small short-wave radio transmitting device. This enabled him to broadcast coded messages to a nearby British contact who had a receiver which recorded the information. The Russians apparently monitored the spy and videotaped him in action.

Although it is customary for one intelligence officer to control a spy, the Russians claimed that nine members of the British Embassy were used on different occasions to retrieve information broadcast by the agent. The accused spy was arrested in April and

the tape was shown to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and to Sir Andrew Wood, the British Ambassador. The move triggered a two-week row which led to the expulsion of four diplomats in each capital last week.

The newspaper said that three of the British diplomats had already returned home and a fourth would follow shortly. The other five diplomats allegedly involved with the spy are due to complete their tours of duty within the next three months.

The Foreign Office has maintained that the Russian action was unjustified and that no evidence had been produced proving British involvement. However, *Argumenty i Fakty* said the reason the authorities were not willing to release more information about the affair was the embarrassment for the Russian Foreign Ministry.

"The reason for concealing the name of the British spy is clear now," the paper said. "We managed to find out that his father is an ambassador in a European country and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would like to have him back in Moscow before the scandal continues."

Despite the row, Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, is to lead a delegation of senior executives from top British companies operating in Russia on a two-week trade visit to Moscow and St Petersburg starting next week. Members of the delegation will meet Russian ministers and representatives of British and Russian companies.

Mr Lang's visit will be the first at his level for four years. He will chair a meeting which will look at ways of boosting trade and investment, and will sign co-operation agreements in the nuclear and science industries.

Mr Lang's visit confirms Britain's interest in putting the spy row to one side. He said Russia was well on the way to becoming a market economy and British business had much to offer.



Lang hopes to boost trade with Russia



Suzan Schlegelmich receives the Légion d'honneur from General Hugues Geoffrey at her home outside Paris and, right, during the war in North Africa



France fêtes wartime heroine from Britain

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

A BRITISH woman who joined the French Foreign Legion in 1940 and played a key role in one of the most important battles of the Second World War has been awarded the coveted Légion d'honneur.

Suzan Schlegelmich (née Travers), now 86, was presented with the award at her home outside Paris this week by General Hugues Geoffrey, her former comrade-in-arms, who applauded her bravery.

In May 1942, Suzan Travers was just 33 when she found

herself at Bir Hakeim in the Libyan desert, the sole woman among 5,000 French troops besieged by Rommel's Afrika Korps and the Italian Army. A few months earlier she had been made the driver for General Marie Pierre Koenig, the charismatic leader of the Free French forces, who had given orders to his men to make a stand at Bir Hakeim to impede the German advance and give the British time to regroup.

Outnumbered, out-gunned and weak from thirst, the

French clung on for two weeks under intense bombardment until June 10, when the order was given to retreat.

Miss Travers, as she is still affectionately known, was at the wheel when General Koenig's vehicle led the ragged French column to safety through a minefield and enemy fire.

"It was very exciting," she said yesterday as she recalled the battle from her home in Savigny-sur-Orge, near Paris.

Born in Folkestone, the daughter of an officer in the Royal Navy, Miss Travers was in France when war broke out. She signed up with the 13th demi-brigade of the French Foreign Legion and was promptly dispatched to Africa. When General Koenig's driver was killed in action, she was drafted in as a replacement.

As the Germans and Italians advanced on Bir Hakeim, the general's female chauffeur

was sent to a camp away from the front line. No sooner had she rejoined the main French force after reports that the attack was over, than the enemy barrage resumed. "We were surrounded, this time for good. The bombardment went on and on. It was rather alarming," she said.

"With us she was better guarded by the legionnaires than a young girl in a convent," General Geoffrey said after the award ceremony this week.

On the moonless night of June 10, the French forces broke out. "Three Bren carriers went first, then me, driving the general's car, but they led us into the minefield by mistake. The carriers blew up," Mme Schlegelmich said. "Then we found the right way. We could see the tracer fire ahead and the general said, 'Drive as fast as you can' through the cross-fire. Some were hit, some were not," she

recalled. The Ford driven by Miss Travers was peppered with bullet holes, but both General Koenig and his chauffeur successfully made it through and the surviving French forces rejoined the British Eighth Army.

Bir Hakeim is celebrated in France as a legendary display of the Foreign Legion's tenacity. The battle sapped German strength and paved the way for the Allied victory at El Alamein.

Miss Travers became Mme Schlegelmich when she married a fellow Foreign Legionnaire after the war. She left the army in 1947 to bring up two children in France. A fellow soldier recalled the slight Englishwoman's sang-froid under fire and remarked: "Suzan, c'est un vrai mec" — which perhaps best translates as "Suzan was one of the lads," the highest compliment a grizzled French legionnaire can bestow.

Increase in risk for smokers

FROM PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

THE risk of premature death due to smoking is greater than previously estimated, according to the World Health Organisation. The number of smoking-related deaths is expected to triple in the next 30 years from its level of about three million a year.

In the first worldwide study of tobacco use and its health effects, released yesterday, the WHO says that about half the regular smokers who started their habit in adolescence will die prematurely, about a quarter of them in middle age. It estimates that 42 per cent of cancer deaths among men, and 10 per cent among

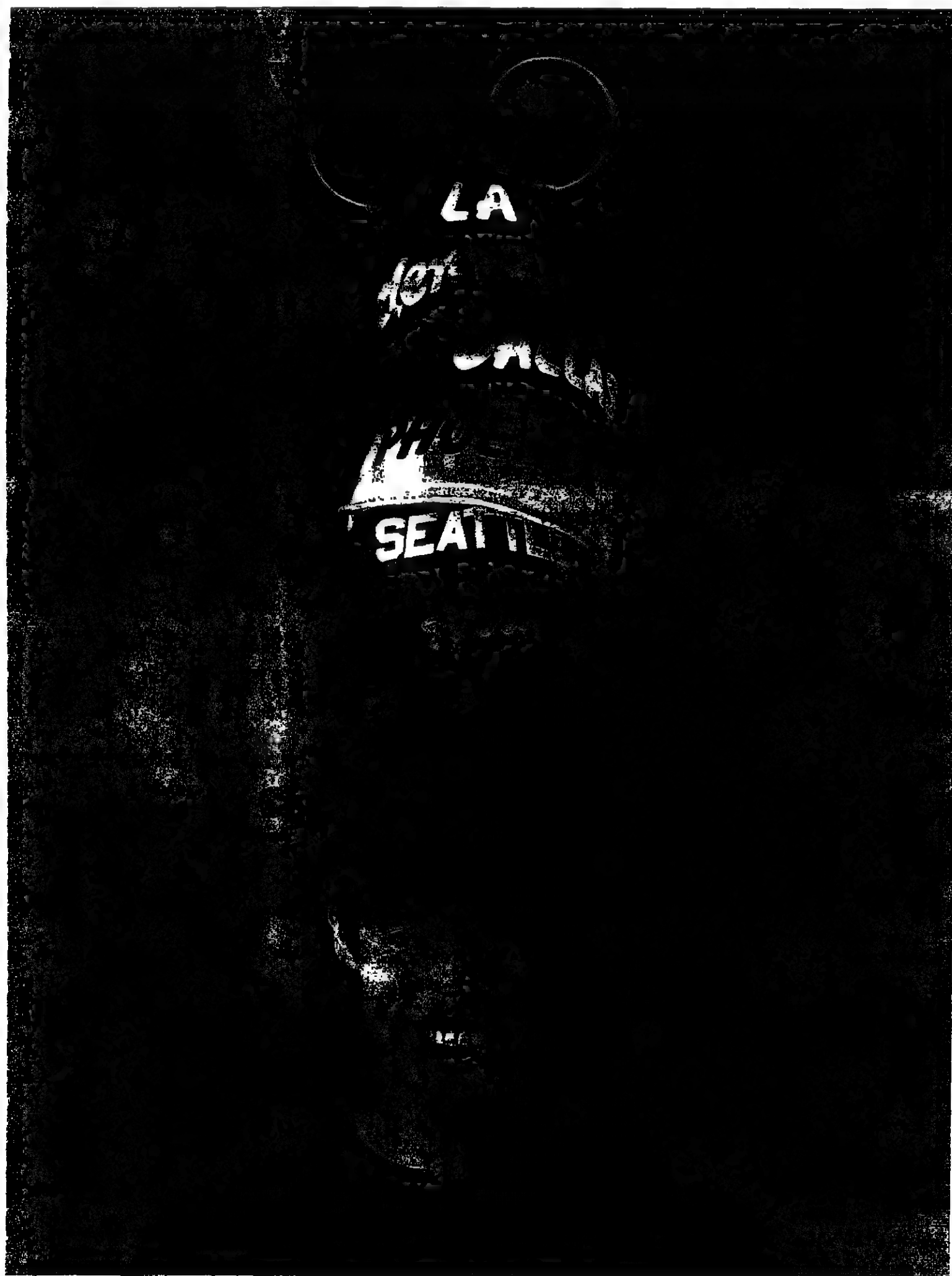
women in wealthy countries, are due to smoking.

"Nobody is standing on street corners selling handy shirt-pocket-sized packages of the Aids virus, yet that is exactly the problem that we face when we deal with the tobacco industry," said Nigel Collishaw, one of the authors. The WHO said it was concerned about booming tobacco sales in developing countries, and the growing number of women who have taken to smoking. There are fewer smokers in wealthy countries but, at more than one packet a day, they tend to smoke more than their coun-

terparts in poorer nations. Britain ranks thirteenth in the world for overall cigarette consumption, with 89 billion cigarettes smoked every year. China tops the list with 1,600 billion.

Although public health campaigns have limited smoking in more developed countries, Mr Collishaw said they would never be able to match the financial resources of tobacco companies.

The health agency also wants to step up protection for children and has called for measures, including aid for countries which depend on tobacco production.



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Russia's hard-hitting liberal champion gambles on Yeltsin's need for support in presidential poll

Yavlinsky fights to keep reform on track

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

GRIGORI YAVLINSKY held up his two fists and brought them together with a crunch. "That is what Russian politics is like," the former middle-weight boxer and presidential hopeful said. "No subtleties, no compromise, just a head-on clash between two sides: winner take all."

As the last legitimate democratic leader in Russia, trailing behind President Yeltsin and Gennadi Zyuganov, his Communist challenger, Mr Yavlinsky is able to laugh at the thought that his presidential hopes lie somewhere between the interlocking knuckles of his fists. Five years after democratic fever swept Russia, Mr Yavlinsky and his dwindling band of free marketeers, intellectuals and human rights activists are fighting a rearguard action to keep the spirit of reform alive.

"Russia is moving towards an oligarchy, where monopolies control the economy, the state is criminalised and corrupt, and the real reformers have been driven out of government," said the Ukrainian-born economist, head of the liberal Yabloko party, referring to the hardening of Mr

6 Russia is moving towards an oligarchy, with the state criminalised

INTERVIEW

Yeltsin's administration. "My job is to steer the country back on course."

Despite the gloomy predictions of the pundits and the sense of defeat among democrats, there is no sign of worry on Mr Yavlinsky's boyish features, and even a flicker of confidence that the story of

Russia's path to democracy may yet have a happy ending. His optimism may be rooted partly in his upbringing. Starting as a secondary school dropout from the western Ukrainian city of Lvov, he became one of

the most influential economists in the country, serving Mikhail Gorbachev and President Yeltsin before launching his own political career three years ago.

Last week the liberal leader took one of his biggest gambles when he presented President Yeltsin with a letter containing a list of demands intended to force the Kremlin back onto the road to reform.

The document called for the dismissal of key Cabinet members, including Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Min-



Yavlinsky hopes his letter may deflect President Yeltsin from considering a compromise with the Communists

ister, and General Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister. It demanded that the war in Chechnya be halted through peace talks. And it set out basic reforms needed to liberalise the economy and help small businesses.

"I was concerned by the very real danger that Yeltsin may consider some sort of compromise with the Communists," Mr Yavlinsky said. "I felt I had a duty to present to him the minimum requirements of the democratic side."

Although there is no chance of President Yeltsin agreeing to the demands by tomorrow's deadline, the Kremlin leader was careful not to reject the document. Within days of

publication, he announced that he was considering a shake-up in his Government, that Mr Yavlinsky's policies could be incorporated in his platform, and that the war in Chechnya had to be resolved peacefully.

Although the two men will not commit themselves at this stage, it is clear that they are playing out the opening steps of an elaborate courtship which may blossom later into a happy union. If, as is thought likely, no candidate wins 50 per cent of the votes in the first round of the presidential elections on June 16, the two leading candidates will go into a run-off poll.

At that point, Mr Yavlinsky

will be in a strong position to offer his public backing to President Yeltsin, and the support of his millions of voters, who are now estimated to form about 10 per cent of the electorate.

If the Russian leader accepts the demands set out in last week's letter, he could have a charismatic, youthful and popular running mate to help him to complete the final stretch of the race.

As for Mr Yavlinsky, although coy about admitting it, he is positioning himself to become Russia's next Prime Minister and the country's President-in-waiting.

Leading article, page 21

Minister dies in flat fight

Moscow: Anatoli Stepanov, the Russian Deputy Justice Minister, was killed in his flat yesterday after a fight with an acquaintance, police said. Tass said Mr Stepanov, 55, married with two children, died from head injuries after he was hit with a blunt object. It quoted police as saying that he had gone home on Wednesday with an acquaintance and the pair had had a fight. The identity of the acquaintance and his relationship to Mr Stepanov was not released. (AFP)

Sharp wit helps to win points for democracy

BY RICHARD BEESTON

MAN IN THE NEWS

An economist by training and a democrat by conviction, Grigori Yavlinsky, the liberal presidential hopeful, represents the last hope for Russia's besieged reform movement.

Currently running third in opinion polls behind President Yeltsin and Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader, Mr Yavlinsky is admired for his sharp mind, quick wit and his campaigning skills, which appeal as much to intellectuals as working-class Russians.

In addition, he has been hailed by human rights activists for his strong and consistent denunciation of the war in Chechnya. However, he is also mistrusted by democrats who blame his driving ambition and arrogance for thwarting attempts at unifying the divided liberal camp.

Mr Yavlinsky, 44, first came to prominence at the height of Mikhail Gorbachev's era as leader, when he co-authored a bold plan to transform the country's crippled economy from Communist control to Western-style free market in under two years. The document, known as the "500-Day Plan", was at first accepted by the Kremlin, but later watered down by Mr Gorbachev, who considered it too fast and too radical.

Mr Yavlinsky has claimed ever since that the failure to commit the former Soviet Union to radical reform led to the coup of 1991. Mr Gorbachev's removal from power and the confused approach to market reform undertaken by President Yeltsin. Although critics contend

that Mr Yavlinsky is long on talk and advice but has no proven track record in office, he counters that his blueprint for reform was tried out and succeeded in the booming Volga city of Nizhny Novgorod.

Mr Yavlinsky's position as the last champion of democratic principles in Russian politics and his popularity in the West, where he is regularly praised by newspapers and politicians, belie his humble origins.

He dropped out of school as a teenager in Lvov and began work as an electrician in a local factory, where he also made a name for himself as the regional middleweight boxing champion.

He came to Moscow in 1973 after being admitted to study economics at the respected Plekhanov Institute. From there his career took off, and by the mid-1980s he had served in a succession of key government posts where he advised on economic reform. In 1993 he formed the liberal Yabloko party and entered the Duma, the lower house of parliament, where today his faction is the fourth largest in the assembly.

Mr Yavlinsky's achievements are all the more remarkable given that he is of Jewish parentage. Extremist Russian politicians have repeatedly attempted to use this fact against him by appealing to the deep-seated anti-Semitism existing in many parts of Russian society.

Kremlin pins electoral hopes on talks with Chechen leader

BY THOMAS DE WAAL IN GROZNY AND RICHARD BEESTON

PRESIDENT Yeltsin took the first concrete step yesterday to end 17 months of fighting in Chechnya, when the Kremlin said he was hosting face-to-face talks with a Chechen separatist delegation led by Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, the new rebel leader.

In a move that could greatly improve the Russian leader's electoral chances in next month's presidential polls, the Kremlin confirmed that Mr Yeltsin had guaranteed the safety of the Chechen delegation for the duration of the talks in the next few days.

"The talks are meant to stop the fighting and reach a peaceful solution," said Tim Guldemann, the head of the

Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe's mission in Grozny. His team will accompany the Chechens to ensure their safety.

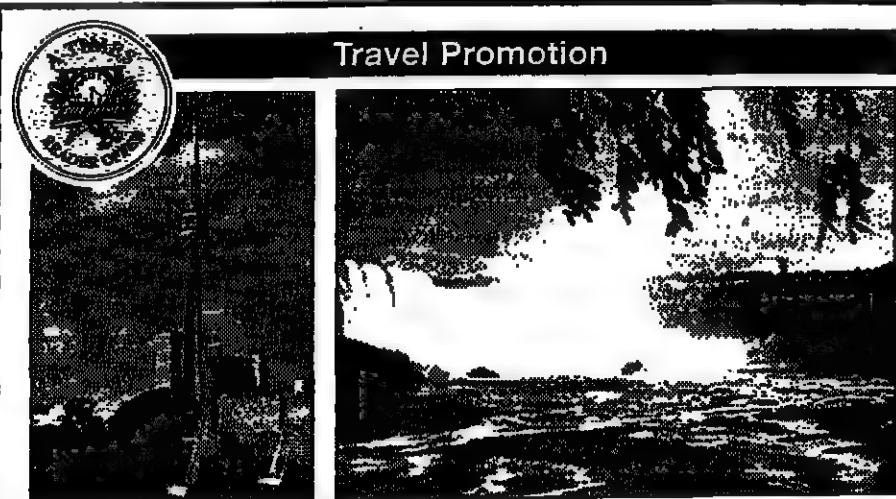
Aslan Maskhadov, the Chechen rebels' chief of staff, said the meeting would take place on Monday and that he was hopeful of a settlement to end the war. An estimated 40,000 people have died in the conflict so far. The latest initiative stands the best chance of success since the talks for the first time directly involve President Yeltsin.

A peace accord to end the fighting and bring Russian troops home would be a big electoral boost to his campaign, which appears to be

outstripping the main challenge from Gennadi Zyuganov, his Communist rival.

Experts believe the Russian leader has only been able to act after the death of Dzhokhar Dudayev, the former Chechen rebel leader, who was killed in an air raid, and yesterday's reported defeat of the last Chechen guerrilla stronghold at Bamut.

While the talks could lead to a ceasefire and demilitarisation of the territory, the thornier issue of sovereignty could take a long time to resolve. The Chechens have demanded full independence, while Moscow has so far only offered autonomy within the Russian Federation.



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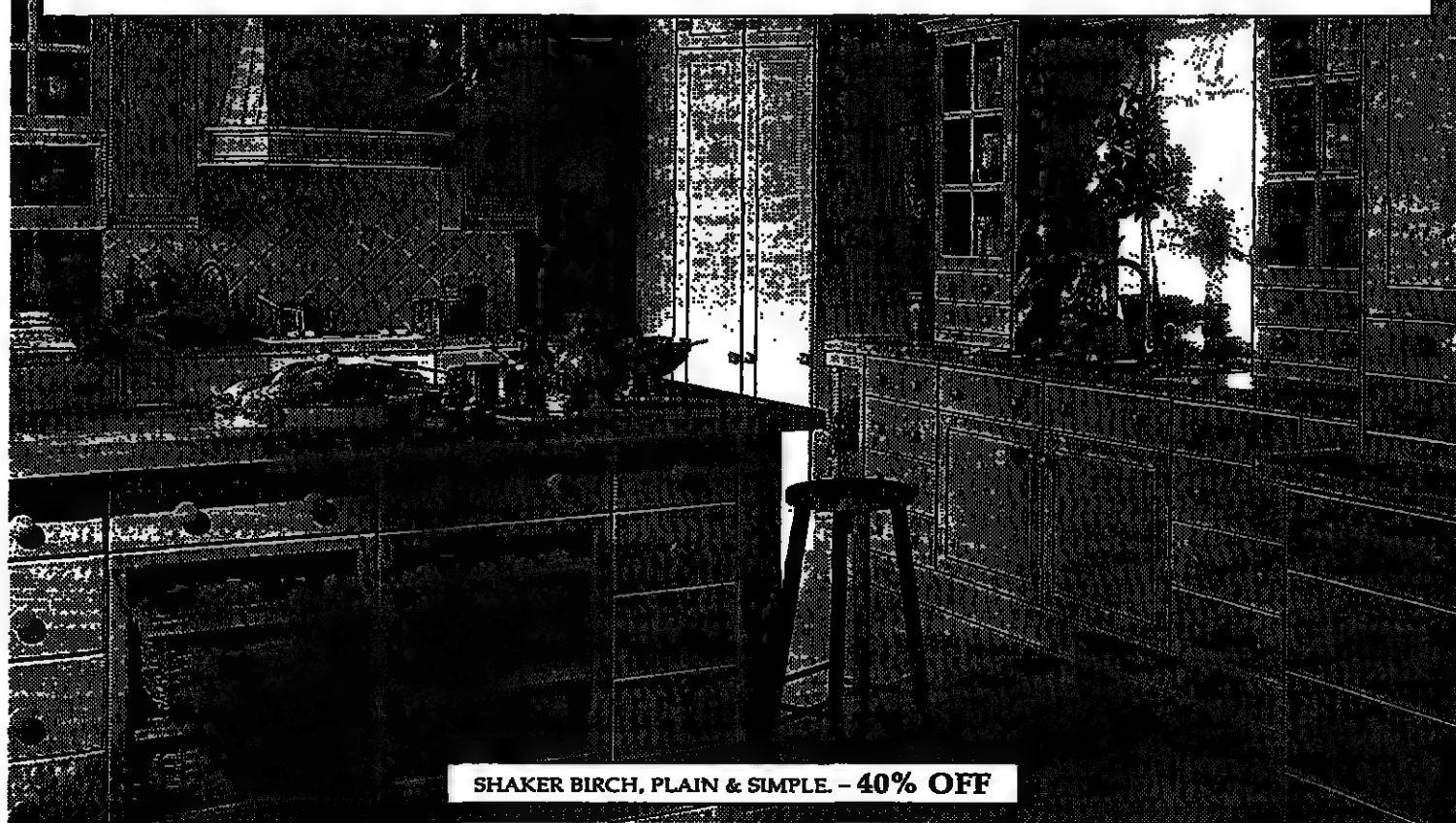
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Alice Thomas Ellis will be unhappy. The new Archbishop of Liverpool is a Catholic of the ecumenical school

The journey from Rome to Liverpool

Alice Thomas Ellis, the Roman Catholic novelist, may weep into her metaphorical nun's scapular, but the new Archbishop of Liverpool offers no balm to her troubled soul, other than his air of sweet benevolence. When asked who she would like Liverpool's next archbishop to be, she wrote, "I respond that a Catholic would be nice."

The Catholic Bishop Patrick Kelly of Salford, on whom the Pope will place the pallium or woollen collar on June 29, is a smallish man of 57, jovial and approachable, who speaks in the accent of his native Lancashire. Our picture shows him in mitre and cope, but these are only for the picture. "The last time I wore this," he says, struggling with a Velcro fastening, "was for the visit of the Patriarch last winter."

He is a humble and unpretentious man, of simple tastes, few possessions and no pomp. By contrast, his salubrious tied cottage, the glorious Wardley Hall, which he occupies with a small staff and a dog named Ben, is a Tudor manor house with courtyard, wooded parkland, its own chapel, Chippendale chairs, and oak paneling kept polished under the eye of a housekeeper nun and a reverend steward. In a glass case on the staircase reposes the skull of Saint Ambrose Barlow, born Manchester 1835, canonised 1970, a Benedictine monk, arrested while celebrating Mass on Easter Sunday 1641 and condemned to be hanged, drawn and quartered, for popery.

Bishop Kelly is no martyr, but he does accede to his new job under a cloud of schism, thanks to Ms Thomas Ellis's savage indictment, in the *Catholic Herald*, of his predecessor the late Archbishop Derek Worlock, and her warning that Liverpool's Catholic congregation would continue to plummet if his successor were cut from the same cloth. Alas for her and her fellow traditionalists, Bishop Kelly is a devout ecumenical, theologically in tune with his predecessor and with the reforming Second Vatican Council — and also very much a popular choice.

When he meets the Pope they converse in English and Italian: Bishop Kelly studied for nine years in Rome. His years at the Gregorian University ("intellectually stimulating and enormously nourishing") were the years of Pope John

XXIII and Vatican II "which helps to explain who I am". So although the first Mass he ever celebrated was in Latin, he has implemented the guidelines of Vatican II all his working life.

He was a cradle Catholic. His father, a dentist, was from Donegal, his mother an Anglican from Morecambe. They married late: Patrick, born when his mother was 38, was the first of four. "Our grandmother went to Dublin only when her three sons qualified in medicine. She told them she was very proud of them, but would be even more proud if told they had been good to the poor."

The boy Patrick found his vocation early, visiting the poor and the sick. During Lent in his A-level year, he attended Mass every morning at 6.45 before travelling 25 miles to school. At just 17, he was in Rome.

"All our lectures, written work and examinations were in Latin. Latin was a living language to me." He still winces if he hears musical settings of the Mass which suggest that the author did not know the Latin meaning.

Yet he does not regret the Latin Mass. "I do think it is good that when Roman Catholics from different countries come together they can sing parts of the Mass together — Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, Pater noster. A lingua franca in places like Lourdes gives the sense of unity and diversity. But to say that everybody used to join in the Latin Mass is a false memory."

He concedes that on a pilgrimage to Walsingham, a Latin Mass "works wonderfully". But he cannot imagine what it sounds like to those for whom Latin is not a living language.

Perhaps it has value as something mysterious?

"Yes, but one must locate the mystery in the right place. Throughout the New Testament, whenever the word mystery occurs it means the revelation of God's plan, not hiding it."

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



When he went to teach ordinands in Birmingham in 1966 he spent 18 years introducing young men to study of liturgy. "But if you are preparing others for ordination you can never run away from the questions: What is the Church? What must the Church be?"

"The Times calls me 'a conservative liberal'. But that is what Catholic means, in its deepest sense."

On the eve of this week's announcement of his appointment by the Papal Nuncio, the bishop was at Opera North's *Marriage of Figaro* in Manchester. His constituency is Manchester, but the Ecclesiastical Titles Act obliges the Catholic Bishop to be titled Salford: "When my predecessor met Prince Philip, he explained that Manchester and Salford were like Budapest: two cities divided by a river. The next time he met the Prince, he was greeted with, 'Ah! the Bishop of Budapest.'"

While his cathedral at Salford is a traditional Victorian ecclesiastical building, his new base will be the Metropolitan Cathedral which, as the Liverpool-born Ms Thomas Ellis writes, leaves her "befuddled as to how a religion which had inspired the building of Chartres could also have led to the committing of Liverpool Cathedral".

"De gustibus non disputandum," replies the bishop equably, explaining that the 1960s cathedral had to be built speedily, in a design that would not be comparable with the Anglican Cathedral "in a city where there could be division".

Alice may prefer the whiff of incense, an air of hushed sanctity, but the bishop declares that profound reverence is possible anywhere, "even in modern buildings, or places that are little more than temporary huts."

He will not accept that there is widespread anti-ecumenical feeling among Catholics. As a young curate in Lancaster, he was involved in the first joint ecumenical service in the city. "My memory is

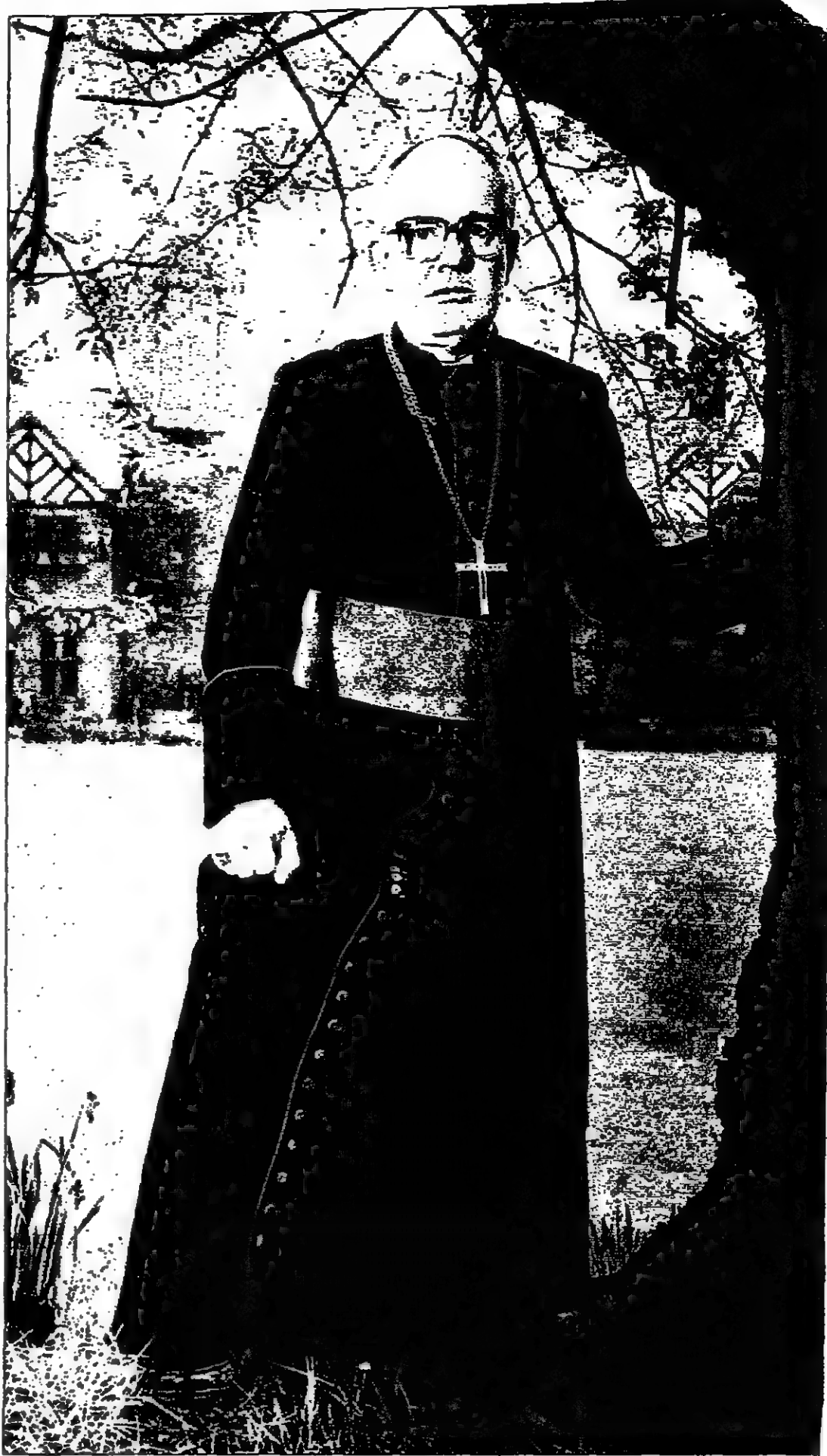
that people were in tears of joy. I think it's important to tell young people of precious moments like that. This was a complex journey, and here was a clear sign that it was right to take it. I never had any doubt, myself — half my relatives were Anglicans." He shows me a congratulatory fax from Rome, encouraging him to continue overcoming the entrenched sectarianism of the past.

What about the dwindling Liverpool congregations, which Ms Thomas Ellis ascribes to the laxity, confusion, compromise and heresy of the modern Church? "Falling attendance has been on the agenda at every meeting of priests in this diocese for years. It is not an experience reserved for Liverpool. But nobody has produced a magic wand to solve it, nor any clarity about what the causes are."

"Two Sundays ago we had a celebration at Salford for handicapped children, and the Cathedral was heaving with young. And there will be several hundred young people on our pilgrimage to Lourdes. Praying, singing."

Ultimately, he points out, a bishop must distinguish between what is essential, eternal and important to faith, and what is of only temporary concern. "All parents go through the sentiment, 'I didn't do this when I was a child'. Does that mean my children should not do it? A bishop has to ensure there is a perspective, to have antennae twitching, and to remember they were saying the same thing 1,000 years ago."

I find that whenever I am alerted to serious contemporary issues," he says, "I come back to what Cardinal Hume says: 'If I say things must change, it means I must change.' Each one of us must review seriously and constantly our attentiveness to living out the word of the Lord. I don't think our problems are going to be solved by strategy." He quotes a passage written by one of his mentors in Rome, Father Bernard Lonergan, SJ: a searching analysis of decline in society (egoism being the source of decline: self-sacrificing love the means of redemption) including the phrase "a civilisation in decline digs its own grave with relentless consistency". With that alone, Alice Thomas Ellis might concur.



Patrick Kelly, the new Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool: "I last wore this for the Patriarch's visit"

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What comes first...home or the office?

Kathryn Knight on how we separate work and family life

Most of us make personal calls from the office, sneakily using work time to pay bills and book holidays. At home, we spend evenings griping about work while filling in our work-related planners. The boundaries between our private and working lives have become increasingly blurred, despite our best attempts to keep the two apart. What we don't realise is that the way we dress, our wallets, lunchboxes, even the way we say "hello" reveal much about our priorities.



Reassuring calls home

sociologist Christena Nippert-Eng, such seemingly inconsequential details are surprisingly revealing.

In *Home and Work, Negotiating Boundaries through Everyday Life*, she shows how our insecurities are revealed through the minutiae of our daily lives. According to her, people are either "integrators" or "segmentists", one type scattering their desks with family photos, the other having separate wardrobes for home and office.

The idea of boundaries first struck Ms Nippert-Eng when she was commuting to a university course seven years ago. "On the train were all these people performing an amazing, orchestrated dance at exactly the same time each day," she says. "Someone would get on, throw their briefcase in the rack, fold their trenchcoat seven times and start chewing the top of their polystyrene coffee cup. That was how they signified their entry into the working day. At around the same time, she first visited the house of her future parents-in-law. Having grown up in a house full of the paraphernalia of teachers, cluttered with books, papers and images of work, she was unprepared for the work-free environment of her in-laws' home.

"It was impossible to tell what they did for a living - nothing from their work life crossed over into the home," she says.

Our insecure nature means we need to construct boundaries, but we find it hard to control them. Most people, says Ms Nippert-Eng, become very tense if they are not allowed their routine, but rarely examine

their own habits to see why they need them.

A friend of mine, a real segmentist, refuses to take a personal phone call at home until she has changed from her office clothes into her "leisure wear". Only then does she allow her evening to begin. "Changing outfits is her way of forcing herself into an out-of-work mode," explains Ms Nippert-Eng.

Most people she interviewed said their dress affected the way they viewed themselves. Grey suits and flat heels with a carefully made-up face was their office persona. Jogging suits and no make-up was the relaxed version of themselves.

For segmentists, a tiny costume change may be enough to signify the boundary between working and leisure time. Some kick off their shoes in the car, for instance, or loosen their tie on the train home.

Most of us feel the need to reassure ourselves, while at work, that there are other things we care about - hence the family snapshot on the desk (or, in the absence of a family, the photograph of a pet). Making personal calls is another way of defiantly showing others - or reassuring yourself - that you really do have another life.

The wallet and address book are also symbolic minefields. Do you load your wallet with personal bric-a-brac? You could be trying to comfort yourself. Are your work and personal address books? You must be a segmentist.

We use our hellos and goodbyes to give out stern social signals to our family and colleagues. "When you say 'goodbye honey' in the morning, you are saying that you are entering into a different mindset," says Ms Nippert-Eng. "Likewise, when you say hello to your colleagues in the office, subconsciously you are saying to them, 'Right here we are, let's pick up from where we left off.'"

What about the ultimate in crossing boundaries - having a relationship with someone from the office? If you are a natural segmentist, you may have problems with this one. If not, "It can be a best-case scenario. Instead of two lifestyles, you can get them beautifully interrelated."

So are we better balanced if we discard the office with our overcoat when we get in at night? Ms Nippert-Eng is undecided. "Most of us find it hard to divide our lives in such an extreme fashion, and use trivial things to keep ourselves oriented."

But next time you phone your mother from the office, just think what it really means.

● *Home and Work, Negotiating Boundaries through Everyday Life* is published by the University of Chicago Press (distributed in England by John Wiley and Sons, 01243 779777).

The Russians are coming



Neither red nor dead: Russian models are already a common sight on the catwalks of Paris and Milan

Glossy magazines, top models and high fashion are gripping Moscow - to the dismay of the old guard, says Richard Beeston

When Emmanuel Ungaro arrived in Moscow recently to launch his latest collection and announce the opening of his first boutique in the Russian capital, he likened the city to an exotic woman he wanted to seduce.

Watching the towering Russian models displaying his autumn collection to an enthusiastic audience in the grand Hall of Columns - once reserved for the lying-in-state of Soviet leaders - it was easy to see why he was so enamoured. But, as the diminutive French couturier cannot have failed to notice during his brief stay, Russia may be receptive to his charms, but he is by no means the only suitor in town.

The country - and particularly Moscow - is in the grip of a fashion mania with designer clothes shops mushrooming across the city centre, models elevated to the status once reserved for Soviet sporting heroes and Western glossy magazines competing for space on newspaper stands.

In the past two years *Cosmopolitan*, *Harper's Bazaar* and most recently *Elle* have launched successful Russian editions with *Vogue* and *Marie-Claire* also eyeing the lucrative and still untapped market.

The new generation of Russian women, especially from 20 to 35, is ready to accept international standards in fashion, health, beauty and life in general," says Yelena Yudin, *Elle's* Editor-in-Chief. "They are sophisticated enough, clever enough and beautiful enough to be at the same level in fashion as everybody in the world."

Russian girls are already a common sight on the catwalks of Paris and Milan and two models - Irina Pantayeva from Siberia and Christina Pirova from the Caucasus - are well on the way to achieving supermodel status.

The obsession with fashion is by no means confined to young women. Last year during the run-up to the parliamentary elections, the Our Home is Russia party, headed by Viktor Chernomyrdin, the stolid Prime Minister, brought Claudia Schiffer, the German supermodel, to Moscow to enliven his lacklustre campaign.

In the present presidential race, none of the candidates can afford to look like the grey-faced, grey-suited leaders of the past. Typically the candidates have already been upstaged by Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, the ultra-nationalist firebrand, who insists on wearing only designer clothes made by Slava Zaitsev, Russia's best-known couturier, and favours in particular a crimson tunic with gold buttons.

"Looking back I think we have Raisa Gorbachev to thank for what is happening today," says Tatyana

Koltsova, the head of Red Stars, Russia's best-known model agency. "She was the first one who was not afraid to look stylish and she inspired a whole generation of women. There will be no going back."

However, as with so many of the Gorbachev reforms, the tide may be turning. A new counter-revolution against fashion is in progress. Among older Russians it is common to hear criticism that the new generation is being sold "vulgar and soulless" Western culture that demeans women.

Rather than portraying women's realistic role in society - as professionals, mothers or partners - the press exploits women, treating them as goods to be sold," says Aleksey Fedulov, the head of the Russian Union of Women.

In particular, there has been an outcry over the impact of Western glossy magazines on traditional Russian publications such as *Rabotnitsa* (Woman Worker) and *Krestyanka* (Peasant Woman).

The magazines, which extolled the virtues of the Soviet working women and gave tips to housewives on how to get by with limited resources, have seen their circulation dwindle from tens of millions to a few hundred thousand.

"The Russian woman as householder and mother is highly valued, possessing a certain quality of the soul," says Nadezhda Zhikhareva, a member of the Russian press committee which was responsible for publishing Soviet women's magazines.

Imported Western fashion magazines now account for some 40 per cent of the market, and she fears that Russian women will lose their real voice.

However, the nostalgia for the bygone days of Soviet life leaves the younger generation cold, particularly when they recall an era of shortages of even the most basic feminine items such as tampons and shampoo.

"I remember it was really hard," says Tatyana Antoshina, a model who grew up near the city of Yekaterinburg in the Urals. "You had to make your own clothes and buy cosmetics on the black market. I don't believe that anyone would want to go back to those days."

Victoria Dronova, her colleague, says it is too late to turn the clock back and that Russian women still never accept their former status.

"Moscow is one of the most exciting places for fashion in the world because it is moving so fast," she says. "I love it here. I would not work anywhere else."

Quentin Letts on why, in these tearful times, the presidential handkerchief has never been damper

The crying game

HE IS the widow's friend. President Clinton this week reached into his White House wardrobe and again donned his funeral suit, this time for Admiral Mike Boorda. America's top sailor had committed suicide: there was another family to comfort, more pain to feel.

At the National Cathedral in Washington, Mr Clinton entered arm-in-arm with the grieving Betty Boorda, escorting her gently to her pew. Here was a widow shocked not only by the loss of her husband, but also by the manner of his passing. Bill Clinton was there for her. The most powerful man in the world found time to visit the

Boorda family at home, listening to Betty's memories of her darling Mike and squeezing her hand when it all became too much and the shoulders started to shake, the tears started to flow.

When it comes to tugging tears ducts, Bill Clinton is hard to beat. It would not do in Britain, where we like our leaders to defy misfortune with a stare, but in America these days a good open weep will get you places - such as the White House.

Things have changed since 1972 when Ed Muskie's presidential aspirations died after he wept in defence of his wife. People then did not trust a politician who blubbed. But

for Bill Clinton in the 1990s, tears equal votes.

The routine begins with a jut of the Clinton chin and an upward tilt of the head. The jaw muscles twitch and the voice goes all James Stewart quavery. Southern, with pauses so long that you wonder if he is strong enough to proceed. The microphone picks up the wet smack of his mouth, the bulbous nose reddens and the eyes start to look misty like Dartmoor on a damp night.

Last month's prolonged obsequies for the late US Commerce Secretary, Ron Brown, gave the President numerous memorial addresses to deliver, many of them televised



Sob supreme: Bill Clinton

live. His poll ratings shot upwards, as they did after the inchoate "shalom bever" tribute to Yitzhak Rabin last autumn. At an Oklahoma bomb commemoration, Mr Clinton slowly thanked the

good people of Oklahoma for giving him a lesson in grief and a woman blew her nose into her hanky. Little Alma McCaskell, a relation of one who died, approached the President and was given a dewy-eyed hug.

It seems to be contagious. Marlon Brando "broke down and wept" to a rabbi after he had made some mildly silly remarks about Jews in Hollywood. This year's Oscars were the dampest in memory, the Douglas family shedding buckets when old man Kirk accepted a special award, and Paul Sorvino doing a veritable Stan Laurel impression when his daughter Mira won a prize.

Bob Dole, Mr Clinton's electoral rival, had a go at crying last month. He was giving a speech in his home town of Russell, Kansas. At

one point his lower lip started to wobble and his voice gave up on him.

"Got a bit emotional out there for a moment, Mr Senator," observed a supporter after the rally. "Yep," said Mr Dole, very pleased. But it was not a convincing cry. He will need to do very much better if he is to beat the weeper-in-chief.

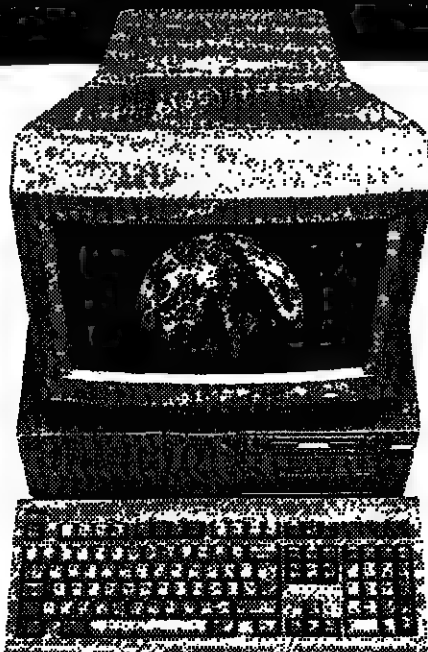
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How we can use beef to beat Kohl

John Redwood sets out a British vision of Europe

The European Union is threatening regulations that will make the Rolls-Royce radiator grille illegal. It has already banned the export of the roast beef of old England, and the sale abroad of prime Scotch sirloin. British fishermen can no longer catch all the cod we need for fish and chips. It is as if the European Union had set out to damage or abolish our national symbols and institutions one by one. It has changed the public mood and united the Conservative Party in anger at these unnecessary meddling. The new "beef war cabinet" should look at all these issues, not just beef.

All this has taught many people a truth about Europe. For years people thought we had joined a Common Market. The growing evidence that others were building a state governed from Brussels was shrugged aside as strange continental idiosyncrasy. Europe was a cause of mirth as it sought the perfect cucumber or the straight banana. Now people realise it is more than this. Europe does have direct and real power over our lives. It can make or break whole industries; it can lose you your job; it has plans to transform the way we are governed by shifting immense power to Frankfurt and Brussels.

What has impressed people most about the beef crisis is how powerless British ministers appear. Beef and the rest of agriculture are primarily controlled from Brussels and not from London. Douglas Hogg is not a plenipotentiary but a supplicant. The industry's future depends on the votes of 15 countries, and has to date been dominated by German intentions to ban our beef. Although people knew we were part of something called the common agricultural policy, which means that we pay more for our food than if we bought it in the world market, it has taken the beef crisis to bring home the fact that if we do not like the common policies under the legal system of the Community, there is nothing we can do about it.

The Government's decision this week to refuse to cooperate until the beef issue is resolved in our favour is a welcome development. It shows a wish to stand up for British interests. The ban on gelatin was near to being lifted. The new pressure may bring progress on the general ban, but it is not a lasting solution to the problem of powerlessness felt by ministers and constituents. It may salvage something for the beef industry, but enormous damage will have been done.

British ministers should not sit at the council table in a sullen sulk. Nor should we speak only of beef, important though that is. We must use the new notoriety we have gained by our threat of non-cooperation to articulate a better vision of Europe, to offer our partners a choice, to say there is a different way that that recommended by Chancellor Kohl. Our case should begin with unemployment.

It is no accident that unemployment is so much higher in Europe than in North America or Asia. It is the direct result of EU policies. It is now

being increased by the Maastricht requirements and by the common employment policies of the 14 states that have signed the social chapter. Both France and Germany need faster growth to bring their deficits down. Both are aiming for lower growth through their present policies. Both need far-reaching long-term reform of their welfare systems, not smash-and-grab raids against those least able to afford it. Neither has developed systems of savings for pensions by employers and employees. They need them quickly, otherwise their public spending will be unsustainable into the next century.

It is cruelty to tell people they can earn more than the market wishes to pay them. Offering a minimum wage is fine for some, but for others it means no job. No wonder youth unemployment is so high on the Continent.

It is also a grave folly for the EU to believe that it knows best about technology and to worry about where an idea came from — the "not-invented-here" syndrome. It is fast becoming illegal for companies in Britain or elsewhere in the EU to develop certain new technologies, or to use technologies developed elsewhere in the world. This narrow approach destroys jobs, turns away investment and adds to the dole queues.

Having set out our stall for a less regulated Europe, we should argue our case for a Europe of nations. The Government is right to make that the centrepiece of its strategy. The beef crisis shows how far we have deviated from that ideal already in some areas. If we were truly a Europe of nations, Britain would be able to export beef to non-EU countries that wish to buy it. We would be able to protect British cod and the Rolls-Royce grille.

The problem comes from the European Court. There is nothing wrong with a Council of Ministers finding common solutions in common policies, although this should usually be done by unanimity rather than by majority voting. There is everything wrong with a court that tells us that our laws have to be changed and which demands £30 million of our money to compensate Spanish fishermen who have not plundered our waters, but think on reflection they should have done so.

To create this Europe of nations, the Government should reassess the supremacy of Acts of Parliament over judge-made law from Europe. Then the Government by itself could lift the ban on exporting our beef to non-EU countries. British ministers could return to the council table with more pride in themselves and more power in their pockets. Then they would be negotiating with the voice of public and Parliament at their back. This might prove so attractive that other countries would follow.

Loss of our power to impose some directives in another country — which are often ignored, even with a powerful court in place — would be a small price to pay for retaining control over our crucial industries.

Proceedings for an offence under this section shall not be instituted except by or with the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions in any case where the article in question is a moving picture film of a width of not less than sixteen millimetres and the relevant publication or the only other publication which followed or could reasonably have been expected to follow from the relevant publication took place or (as the case may be) was to take place in the course of a cinematograph exhibition.



Obscene prohibitions

Corrupting or releasing? The laws against pornography are certainly

absurd — but I'm glad I don't need it

What exactly is pornography? I ask, because it seems that there is more talked and written about it than ever, which in my innocent understanding must mean that there is more of the thing. Experts in these matters (I am not one) say that that is not true, and that pornography is waning, because it is old hat and drugs have replaced porn. Still, pornography has certainly not disappeared entirely, as many a newsagent would confirm.

The word is very old indeed; it comes from the Greeks (shame on you, Greece, shame!) and our "porn" meant no more (though not less) than a harlot. "Pornography" was the inevitable straight noun, but "pornographer" naturally followed quickly, with "pornographic" and there is a touch of the porn-hauteur when we come to "pornocracy". (As for pornography, it must have greyed many a sedate head, when an innocent music-lover put the next record on.)

There is soft porn, and hard porn (I am learning fast; few, including the experts, could be sure where the line is to be drawn. Indeed, I should think that no group of people gathering solemnly to discuss the grave matter of pornography would be able to get half a dozen experts in the matter to agree on anything about it, much less come up with a conclusion.)

We must tread carefully here, if only because the law may be sniffing at our heels. The law tried to define pornography in 1959, and made a fool of itself. Such laws invariably do, and are largely ignored.

Try a bit: For the purposes of this Act an article shall be deemed to be obscene if its effect (where the article comprises two or more distinct items) the effect of any one of its items is, if taken as a whole, such as to tend to deprave and corrupt persons who are likely, having regard to all relevant circumstances, to read, see or hear the matter contained or embodied in it.

That's nothing, I assure you; when they get into their stride, they can do this in less than a week.

Proceedings for an offence under this section shall not be instituted except by or with the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions in any case where the article in question is a moving picture film of a width of not less than sixteen millimetres and the relevant publication or the only other publication which followed or could reasonably have been expected to follow from the relevant publication took place or (as the case may be) was to take place in the course of a cinematograph exhibition.

Incidentally, is there anyone left in the drafters' section who can still both read and understand what he is writing?

But pornography is much wider than the nonsense that the law lays down and which, sensibly, is entirely ignored. There are, quite obviously, many people who enjoy the sexual thrill of pornography, most blatantly seen in the form of naked and semi-naked beautiful ladies being ogled.

But if I may tread for a moment on somewhat delicate ice, our dear sister *The Sun* never comes out unless there is a beautiful young lady clad in nothing between the top of the edge of her panties and the top of her head. Is *The Sun* therefore a purveyor of pornography? And what about the *News of the World*, which lives in the same stable and eats the same straw? Does the nakedness of the ladies who are found in those papers make them pornographic? Certainly, they are fiercely denounced as such.

Very well; but if you say that both the papers in question are selling pornography you have said that approximately four million people are buying pornography six days a week, and another 4½ million on Sundays. What is more, experts tell us that each copy of *The Sun* and *News of the World* is read by roughly two people. If those newspapers are pornographic, some eight or nine million people in this country are wallowing in pornography, which surely cannot be true. (My own nearest approach to depravity took place when I was innocently travelling in Europe. I was staying in an expensive hotel in Switzerland and at that time I had

never heard of those hotels — very swish ones, too — which include a pornographic section in their television. It was coyly tucked away, with a complicated patch of buttons to bring it out, and the only reason I didn't switch on was that my famous incompetence with machinery made it impossible.)

But what and who gets or gives in the matter of porn? Well, for a start, those poor women who pose for the blurred, cheap, horrible men who lick their lips and peer at what was once a — usually young — woman.

But that won't do, for two reasons: the first is, of course, that the women in the pictures are doing it for money, and would probably have none if they didn't participate — and there it is very substantial evidence for it — many of the girls want to pose in such surroundings.

Now, the argument takes over. Is pornography corrupting or releasing? We have a strange system with our films (well, most of us must think it strange): a man sits down and watches films, not because he is a film-buff but he is the man who tells us which films he may see, or at least tells young people which they may not. Can we be sufficiently degraded that our nature changes, and for the worse, after seeing a dirty film? If so, can we be sufficiently elevated by seeing a film which has nothing but purity in it? Try as I may, I cannot see anyone being transformed into a St George by watching a sufficiently soppy film.

There are those who are sure that pornography is truly dangerous; one of these is a greatly committed Indian, Hamdy Shahein, who argues that adults can do what they like, but children should be guarded from pornography — a reasonable attitude, though I fear that children these days are themselves lusting for pornographic magazines. Mr Shahein points out that it is illegal for any

shop to sell cigarettes to any person under 16 years, and he might add that there are films which it is illegal to show to those under 18. WH Smith fought a long battle against Mr Shahein over the question of whether soft pornographic magazines should be included compulsorily in the bundles which WH Smith supplies to retailers. In the end, WH Smith agreed to allow newsagents to refuse to stock such magazines.

WH Smith, of course, is buying and selling under the law, the ridiculous Obscene Publications Act, and I suppose that from time to time the owner of some scruffy corner shop is bunged up to show that Her Majesty's snuffers-out are on the job.

But we come back to the question: leave our children and ask: does looking at pornography damage human beings? It is no use saying that the world is full of shameful and wickedness beside which a dirty magazine is nothing, though it is true. The newsagents who peddle the stuff peddle it in the certainty that it is used for gloating over pictures that most of us would find disgusting. But what about the people who do not find it disgusting? Are there stages in this matter, so that from drooling over a luscious pair of breasts in a tabloid we go to the panting figure who suddenly opens his flies in the Tube when there is a young woman opposite?

Come back to the young woman who could get no employment other than posing horribly in the porn magazines. Has she been damaged? Is the prostitute damaged? Is the photographer who takes the pictures damaged? Turn it upside down: what about the decent men who cannot get decent satisfaction other than by using porn magazines?

The laws against pornography are ridiculous, as I have said, but they must have been put there for a reason. You can say that they might give children nightmares, but the laws are plainly for adults. It is true that at least half of our laws were invented on the principle of "Go and see what Johnny is doing and then tell him to stop", but there must be some sense in our courts.

On the whole, I think that pornography is loathsome, but for those who are old enough to buy it legally probably not very dangerous. Anyway, I don't need pornography — I've got Wagner.

Philip Howard



■ We like our literature digested — from *Don Quixote* to *Mary Poppins*

Intellectual snobs deplore digests. We should read proper books, such nannies scold us, not the predigested extracts from and summaries of fashionable books from which *The Reader's Digest* makes its profits. In fact, not all digests are child's read, as he/she knows who has toiled through the original *Digest* of Roman Law, compiled for the Emperor Justinian (Fortunemoney) by Tribonian and his 16 assistants.

Now high-minded Spaniards are deploring the decision of a publisher to cut out 54 of the 74 chapters of *Don Quixote* because they are boring. Perhaps it is a shame that this latest digest has lost Sancho Panza's term as Governor of Barataria, because it is early *Private Eye* satire of government. And it was hugely influential. What was the name of the Utopian kingdom of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Gondoliers*? Why, Barataria, of course. And *Don Quixote*'s muddle-headed fool with frequent lucid intervals fathered a dynasty of English rascaloon heroes. In the hoof-prints of Rostand's staggering under the Knight of the Doleful Countenance, Tom Jones tumbles and Mr Pickwick gets into scrapes that are social commentaries as well as funny. Sterne kept *Don Quixote* on his desk beside the works of Shakespeare, and named his humorous parson Yorick. The picaresque novel, in which a lovable *picaresque* or "rogue" proves wiser than the great and the good, flavoured the work of post-realist writers from Joyce to Borges and Nabokov. On the trail behind *Don Quixote* dances a subversive crew of madcaps that includes *Huckleberry Finn*, *Just William* and (I would assert) *Mary Poppins*.

The digest of *Don Quixote* will beguile many to read the unabridged work, just as some readers of *tabloids* go on to grown-up newspapers. At the Criterion Theatre, the Reduced Shakespeare Company performs the 37 plays of Shakespeare in 97 minutes. It's great fun, and like Ian McKellen's brilliant 1930-ish thriller *Richard III*, it throws witty sidelights on the Bard. But, "It is a pretty poem, Mr Pope, but you must not call it Homer."

People have been digesting Shakespeare for centuries, for their own dramatic, political, moral and Bowdlerising reasons. That is how Thomas Bowdler made his name. "Nothing is added to the original text; but those words are omitted which cannot with propriety be read aloud in a family." So Bowdler's *Hamlet* was a slim volume, though not as slim as a later digest: Prince Hamlet thought Uncle a traitor.

For having it off with his Master, Revenge dead or not? That's the gist of the plot. And he did — nine soliloquies later.

P.L. Travers, who died last month aged 96, so hated what the cinema did to *Mary Poppins* that she left instructions in her will that another film should never be made about the nanny she created. And indeed the film digest Disneyfied Julie Andrews as Poppins, substituting a little bit of sugar for the starch and quixotic subversiveness of the original. But, it won several Oscars and is still loved by children, some of whom will be drawn on to read the real thing in full. Like all picaresque classics, it is frightening and sad as well as magical and very funny. *Mary Poppins* continued to regard the four children searchingly. Then, with a long, loud snuff that seemed to indicate that she had made up her mind, she said: "I'll take the position." "For all the world," as Mrs Banks said to her husband later, as though she were doing us a signal honour, "Perhaps she is," said Mr Banks. Part of the timeless attraction of *Mary Poppins* is that she takes the middle-class English back to a vanished (and imaginary) world of pre-war security in the nursery, when there were muffins still for tea (after you had washed your hands).

The *Jungle Book* cartoon is another Disneyfication, though nothing like as successful as *Mary Poppins*. But many children still enjoy it and sing along with its vulgarisation. Some discover the magic and terror of Kipling's hard stuff between hard covers. The classics are big enough to survive digests, distortions and translations into other media. Sometimes the digests become classics in their own version, as has McKellen's *Richard III*. Let digests thrive. They are the sincerest form of favourable review.

Batting on

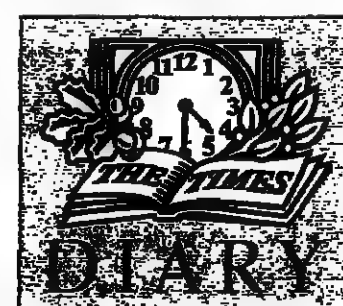
NORMA MAJOR'S literary career has been revived by an assiduous Downing Street charlatan. Her book on the Prime Minister's country residence Chequers, which appeared to have been abandoned, is back on track after a cleaner discovered essential archive material in the basement of No 10.

A book tour by the First Lady is now planned for the autumn. Dates have been pencilled in only, just in case a general election is called to steal her thunder. Downing Street is closely protecting the name of the truffling cleaning-lady, who, having struggled through piles of Prime Ministerial clutter, decided the basement could do with a clean-out. Like Carter finding Tutankhamun, but with duster instead of torch, she stumbled on the crucial bundle of papers.

I understand that Norma seized upon the material and sprinted up to telephone the literary agent Andrew Lownie. And so the Chequers project was revived. "Nobody is saying yet what secrets they have discovered," says a source. "But there appears to be evidence that there was once a cricket pitch at Chequers. The Prime Minister is

clearly excited and there is talk of getting the square back into playing condition."

● Though his fortune has been built on beef, Lord Vestey was for many years a pig man. He kept them in 2,200 square feet of Emsworthian splendour on his Stowell Park estate in Gloucestershire. His passion spent, however, Vestey has chosen to convert the empty pig sties into a craft and business centre. For this, Vestey, who is not



the sort who needs to blanch at a drinks bill, is to receive a £28,000 handout from the Rural Development Commission.

CLARENCE HOUSE is excited by the news that one of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's favourite clerics is coming home. After 24 years in Manhattan, Canon John Andrew will be driven to the city's JFK airport in the official Rolls-Royce belonging to Sir John Weston, the British Ambassador to the UN. He will then board Concorde for the flight home, a trip paid for by friends, and from Heathrow he will retire to Bath.

Andrew is leaving St Thomas's, the smart Fifth Avenue Anglican church which has one of the richest congregations in the world, and

which he has run with bombast. At a choir rehearsal once, he shouted to the organist: "What do you think I am, a bloody canary?" Liturgically, St Thomas's is high as a kite, but the pews are packed. It will be a duller place without "Father John".

● Liverpool's Roman Catholics, still reeling from the posthumous attacks on Archbishop Derek Worlock, must brace themselves for more bad news. Their new Archbishop, Patrick Kelly, is a fan of Manchester United, Liverpool's arch-rivals and conquerors in the recent FA Cup Final. Even within Britain's Catholic hierarchy, Mr Kelly must tread softly. His immediate boss, Cardinal Basil Hume, is a devoted fan of Newcastle United, whom United beat to the Premiership title.

Bushy tale

BLUBBING Bill Clinton is embarrassing enough, but for real schmalz, George Bush takes some beating. In a note to the newborn daughter of his friends Susan Molinari and Bill Paxton, Bush writes: "Dear Susan Ruby Paxton (endearingly misspelled), I love you already and I haven't even seen you yet... I am an old guy now. I am older than your granddad... You will



Accidental Anderson and the blithely unaware Queen Noor

have an exciting life ahead, and I will be cheering for you all the way. Love, George Bush.

"P.S. I used to be President of the United States — now I am a happy dad and granddad — that's it. That's the way it should be."



Accidental Anderson and the blithely unaware Queen Noor

ancing suavely on a wooden balcony at the royal palace. Summoned to the King's presence, he bounced to his feet. "Rrrrrrip" went the seat of his trousers.

P.H.S



CATTLE GRIDLOCK

All that Labour can do is limit the political damage

For years the Tories have been hoping for something to turn up — some 1996 version of the Falklands War, perhaps, that might revive their political fortunes. The beef war has now become that "something". It brings risks for John Major but the biggest loser could be the Labour Party — which is why Tony Blair seems so determined not to repeat the mistakes that Michael Foot made in 1982.

Labour recalls how the Falklands affair began as bad news for the Government. The Foreign Office was blamed for failing to take notice of intelligence reports that the Argentinians were planning to invade. The Foreign Secretary and his deputy were forced to resign. At that stage, it seemed perfectly proper to find fault with the administration.

But war changed everything: once the task force had set sail, to criticise was tantamount to treason. Labour's less than wholehearted support for Mrs Thatcher (along with all the party's other problems) sealed its fate at the subsequent election.

So it could be with beef. Yes, the Government threw the beef industry into this mess by not taking BSE seriously enough at the start. Yes, the lack of a coherent line from ministers in the few weeks after the link between BSE and CJD was suggested helped to undermine consumer confidence. But for Labour leaders to say that they would not have started from here sounds irrelevant now. For Labour to suggest that the Government has not done enough to make British beef safe could now be portrayed by the Tories as unpatriotic.

Even to criticise the Government's non-cooperation tactics might be to make Mr Foot's mistake. That is why Mr Blair, in Italy yesterday, was careful to promise not to undermine Mr Major's new policy; and to couch the lifting of the ban as a matter of national interest, not to be clouded by partisan considerations.

The whole affair, of course, is steeped in partisan politics. Britain's beef producers have become pawns in the two parties' election campaigns. Mr Major has taken this action to look tough, to unite his party, to win press support and to discomfort Labour. If the beef ban is indeed lifted, then his joy at the restoration of beef industry jobs will be far eclipsed by his delight at the transformation of his political prospects.

All that Labour can do is to cling to the Tories' tactics while they look likely to work in an attempt to neutralise any partisan effect that they might have in the polls. Mr Blair can try to strengthen the war aims so that Mr Major will find it harder to claim a bogus victory. And he can detach himself from the government position if he senses that it is doing the Tories more harm than good. But this is all damage limitation: for Mr Blair's ploy is a serious trap for Labour.

Mr Blair's difficulty is that much of the electorate and much of his party think that the policy of non-cooperation is wrong. At the moment, only Paddy Ashdown is representing this sizeable group of voters. Many of Mr Blair's colleagues will be tempted to undermine their leader by criticising the Government. Already Baroness Blackstone, in the Lords yesterday, has described the stance as "folly".

This is not a war: it is not even a phoney war. The normal considerations of national unity should not have to apply. But logic has little force in this base political manoeuvring. Although a few Tory Euro-enthusiasts have to hold their noses, they are prepared to do so because they are outnumbered in their own party. Mr Major's calculation is that more such enthusiasts sit on Labour's benches, and that they, as a majority in their party, will find it harder to support a Government and policy that they disdain. For the moment, Mr Blair has a harder hand to play than his opponent.

RUSSIAN REFORM

Yeltsin and Yavlinsky need to unite against Communism

Already the post-election bargaining has begun in Moscow. Grigori Yavlinsky, the boyish, charismatic leader of Russia's dwindling band of reformers, has offered President Yeltsin an informal alliance if he halts the war in Chechnya, sacks the unpopular Defence Minister, dismisses Viktor Chernomyrdin, the lacklustre Prime Minister, and commits himself wholeheartedly to further market reforms.

There is no chance that Mr Yeltsin will accept these demands by tomorrow, the deadline that Mr Yavlinsky has given him. But he has not rejected the document. He has announced a major shake-up in his Government, with hints that he may indeed dismiss Pavel Grachev if things continue as badly as now in Chechnya; and he is clearly positioning himself as leader of a broad-based anti-Communist front.

Mr Yavlinsky will not, at this stage, pull out of the election or conclude any formal deal. He is an astute politician and has served both Mikhail Gorbachev and Mr Yeltsin as economic adviser. He drew up, with the Harvard economist, Jeffrey Sachs, one of Russia's first market reform plans. He led the Yabloko bloc in the old Duma and made a name for himself as one of the Young Turks who has transformed the city of Nizhny Novgorod into a showcase for reform. He has youth, looks and brains on his side. Although Russian nationalists will never vote for him, liberals who, despite all the setbacks, want reform to continue, see him as the only credible candidate. He may garner 10 per cent of the vote.

An informal understanding with Mr Yeltsin at this stage would serve both men. The Russian leader is not yet assured of victory next month. Despite a remarkable recovery from last year's depths of unpopularity, he cannot be sure that the widespread anger at his Chechen policy, the entrenched sus-

picion of the West, growing disillusion with reform and popular hatred of the mafia millionaires will not deliver a substantial vote to Gennadi Zyuganov, his Communist opponent. Mr Yeltsin knows that this election, for millions of Russians and the outside world, is a stark choice: a return to old-fashioned Communism or a continuation of economic and political reform. The more that the contest is polarised, the more sense an anti-Communist coalition makes.

For Mr Yavlinsky it also makes sense. If he does a deal after the first round, he has a good chance of being appointed Prime Minister, and, given Mr Yeltsin's uncertain health, President-in-waiting. He would have to compete with rivals, principally Aleksandr Lebed, the popular former general who did poorly in the Duma elections but may still command the nationalist vote. He may find that General Kozhakov and others in Mr Yeltsin's self-seeking entourage have plans of their own. But he could safeguard the reforms, even in such a political hotch-pot.

These reforms are, at last, bearing fruit. Russians are much given to complaining, to anathematising change and to dismissing apparent success as a trick or fraud. But privatisation has now gone so far that every shopper, every provincial town, is beginning to glimpse the better life. Small businesses are booming. The harshest times are past, and provided that the mafia-controlled monopolies can be broken, Russia has an opportunity to experience the sort of boom that Eastern Europe has seen.

Mr Yavlinsky cannot expect an immediate answer from Mr Yeltsin. His demands are high; his deadline is opportunistic, even impudent. But he would surely add to Mr Yeltsin's appeal. He would bring back some of the President's early reforming credibility. They should do a deal.

BLOW-OUT

A diplomat is a dainty eater sent to lunch out for his country

Two heavyweight statesmen ate for their countries yesterday. When President Clinton took Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, out to lunch at a Milwaukee German restaurant, the White House described their meeting as a summit. Less diplomatic sauces called it "the nosh of the century".

Both men are famous for their appetites as well as their power. Both have been known to refuel with buns or hamburgers even after the obstacle courses of a state banquet. Mr Clinton has a passion for Big Macs. In *Primary Colours*, the Clintons' *roman à clef*, lack of discipline is symbolised by craving for doughnuts. Herr Kohl is so fond of the cooking of his homeland, Rhineland Palatinate, that he once entertained Margaret Thatcher with pig's stomach (as well as much else). She tried to hide the bits she could not face beneath her knife and fork.

As the two world trenchermen munched through their cholesterol yesterday, each had a hidden menu. Milwaukee is the home of a huge German-American population and Mr Clinton needs to win Milwaukee in November. Herr Kohl wants to explain European objections to proposed American legislation imposing sanctions on those who trade with Iran. Since Germany trades with Iran, Herr Kohl hopes to persuade a replete President that trade moderates extremism.

Dinner moderates diplomacy. It is nothing but the continuation of politics by other means, such as Hollandaise sauce. If jaw-jaw is better than war-war, who cares whether the jaws are waffling or chomping? And hospitality to important strangers is one of the oldest rules of diplomatic man. To eat a man's salt creates a sacred bond between host and guest. Official eating is a means of display, flattery and national propaganda. State visitors to Britain at present invariably find Aberdeen Angus on the menu, and at the press conference afterwards are asked pointedly how they enjoyed it.

A diplomatic menu can be *table d'hôte* as well as *à la carte*. Guests at state banquets with famous poisoners — Nero, say, or the Borgias — took their own diplomatic doggy bags. Similarly, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, trained on expensive boarding-school cooking, had a waterproof pocket in his tails for the disposal of state cooking. But, for the most part, the great ones of the world are seldom so harmlessly employed as when they are opening their mouths and stuffing fine food in them. We would like to have wished Mr Clinton and Herr Kohl *bon appetit*. But they have already finished — and, even if they have not, it would be unnecessary.

Sentencing reform initiative defended

From the Home Secretary

Sir, Lord Ackner (letter, May 20) accuses me of amnesia. Let me remind him of what my White Paper sets out to do, rather than what he claims it sets out to do.

There is incontrovertible evidence that our current sentencing arrangements fail to protect the public from repeat sexual or violent offenders whose determinate sentences release them back into the community while they are still dangerous.

Of 217 offenders convicted of a second serious violent or sexual offence in 1994, only ten received a life sentence. In other words, in 207 cases the courts denied the Parole Board or anyone else any opportunity to protect the public from a violent criminal who had already proven that prison was likely to be only a temporary interruption to their assaults. Moreover, around 40 serious violent or sexual crimes in 1994 were committed by offenders who had already been convicted of a second such offence.

I believe that the public need much greater protection from these dangerous and persistent offenders. I am sorry if Lord Ackner disagrees.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL HOWARD,
Home Office,
50 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,
May 22.

From Mr Neville Goldrein

Sir, I am not convinced by the Lord Chief Justice's broad generalisation, in his article today, that "those who actually work in the system — lawyers, judges, probation and prison officers — are clear" that the Home Secretary's proposals on sentencing will not work.

Lord Taylor of Gosforth says, quite rightly, that individual crimes "vary almost infinitely, as do individual criminals". One problem is that the judges vary similarly, leading perforce to an infinite variety in sentencing. This is one of the reasons for the differential in sentences for similar crimes which so disturbs the public.

He concentrates substantially on the proposed minimum sentence for the third burglary, "however modest the value of the theft". For the burgled household, the invasion of privacy, the vandalism, the interference with personal and sentimental items, whether his goods are stolen or not, is always traumatic. And it is incorrect to say that "no account would be taken of whether the criminal was before the court for three offences or 30", or whether they "involved sophisticated planning or drunken opportunism". The proposals only involve a mandatory minimum and so if the trial judge were to consider the burglary to have been more serious than would warrant a three-year "real-time" sentence, he would still have the discretion to impose a longer sentence.

My experience as a solicitor over many years is that the penalty, if real, is just as much a deterrent as the fear of detection. One of the current problems with burglary is that the criminal knows that the penalty, with remission, would be fairly short-term, and so it is worth the risk.

Lord Taylor suggests that the minimum sentence for a third burglary would be longer than the current average sentence for serious crimes of violence, including rape. This surely confirms that the current sentences imposed by the judges for such offences are far too low in so many instances.

Lord Taylor considers the views of the judiciary and its dislike of any fetter on its discretion. The Home Secretary takes into account the view of the general public — the victims of the burglaries. Surely it would be better to enable the Home Secretary's proposals to proceed. They may well work — the present system certainly does not.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
NEVILLE GOLDBREIN,
Torreño, St Andrew's Road,
Blundellsands, Liverpool,
May 23.

Gay clergy

From the Reverend Steve Allen

Sir, A former Archbishop of Canterbury has revealed that he has sometimes acted in a "don't want to know way" when interviewing prospective ordinands (report, May 16). This is an admission of a gross neglect of duty.

In the ordination service the bishop says to the congregation: "Those whose duty it is to inquire about these persons and examine them have found them to be of good life." On the basis of this examination he then asks the congregation if it is their will that he proceed with the ordination.

It would appear from what Lord Runcie now says that there were times when his examination was less than thorough. One wonders just how much our bishops and those who advise them can be trusted in this particular matter.

Yours faithfully,
STEVE ALLEN,
30 Bartle Close,
Great Horton,
Bradford, West Yorkshire,
May 17.

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Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Labour policies under close scrutiny

From the Reverend Stephen Jones

Sir, Jill Sherman, your Chief Political Correspondent, is absolutely right (report, May 16) in saying that the "personality splits" among the leading lights in the Labour Party "hide damaging divisions over policy that will become more exposed in the run-up to the general election".

The Labour Party is seriously torn between the imperative of winning power and doing what it was established to do, namely, to protect working people and enhance their rights and status.

This dichotomy is highlighted by a lack of clarity over child and unemployment benefit, taxation, rail privatisation, education and health, as Ms Sherman explains; and Labour only appears to be relatively united over Europe because the Conservatives are even more divided.

I shall vote Labour in the general election, not out of any great confidence or expectation, but because I cannot consider voting for either of the alternatives.

I suppose I am middle-class — one of those whose votes Labour needs — but I reckon it will be a miracle if Labour wins a second term. Then, along with many others, I shall be left wondering where all the compromises and changes of heart over the past decades have got us.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN JONES,
30 North Road,
Carnforth, Lancashire,
May 16.

From Ms Fran Bennett

Sir, Paul Barker's article, "Why child benefit is special" (May 17), was a timely reminder of the fact that child benefit is a direct descendant of child tax allowances as well as of a benefit, the family allowance.

This family tree is important because it tells us that child benefit has multiple functions. It is the benefit which reaches those poverty-stricken families that means-tested benefits — despite being designed specifically for them — do not reach.

It acts as a form of savings bank, redistributing resources over the family lifecycle to the time when income tends to be lower relative to expenditure. It does not contribute to the unemployment and poverty traps.

But, above all, it is the only mechanism we now have for recognising the fact that families with children, at whatever income level, have a lower "taxable capacity" than those without. This is recognised in parliamentary answers, in which child benefit is set against tax, as a tax credit.

The implications are simple. We have many different ways in which to redirect money from the better-off to

poorer families. We now only have one way in which to adjust the tax burden between those without and those with children. Somehow, we seem to need regular reminders of this crucial fact.

Yours faithfully,
FRAN BENNETT,
60 St Bernard's Road, Oxford,
May 17.

From Sir John Walley

Sir, Nearly thirty years have gone by since (on December 11, 1967) the then Editor of *The Times* gave me the chance of putting forward the case for a universal child benefit which would, at little net cost, replace the existing expensive muddle of child support arrangements and tax allowances and be more valuable to parents.

There was nothing party-political about the proposal. How it fared under the Wilson and Callaghan Governments is fascinatingly described in Paul Barker's article. The story is not a credit to these Governments and I hope that a new Labour Chancellor will not follow them in thinking that this is a field in which financial savings can be looked for.

Yours truly,
JOHN WALLEY (Deputy Secretary,
Ministry of Social Security, 1958-66),
Brookland House, 24 High Street,
Cottenham, Cambridgeshire,
May 17.

From Ms Lilli Matson

Sir, It would be wrong to be overly gloomy about Labour's transport proposals regarding road pricing and car taxation (report, May 17). It should be remembered that while the real costs of public transport fares have increased over the last ten years, the costs of driving have fallen.

As our congested cities slowly suffocate and the tranquillity of the countryside is destroyed by traffic noise, it is fair to ask how many people actually benefit from the status quo. Indeed, for the quarter of the population without a car, it is likely that things are getting steadily worse.

It is a classic tenet of transport policy that change can only be brought about with a mixture of "carrot and stick" measures. Unless we are brave enough to face the issue of how cheap it is to move around by car, we can expect our nation's roads to grind to a halt, while our transport needs go unmet.

Yours sincerely,
LILLI MATSON
(Transport campaigner),
Council for the Protection
of Rural England,
Warwick House,
25 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1,
May 17.

Literary twinning

From Ms Cynthia Gamble

Sir, Your leading article of May 17, "Fair exchanges", illustrated in a most moving, poignant and vivid way the long-lasting value of Anglo-French pupil exchanges, and in particular cited the example of Jacques Chirac.

I myself was profoundly influenced by my first visit to France when I was a pupil at a country school, Bridgnorth Grammar School, in Shropshire. My profound love of France and subsequent teaching career emanates from that first critical visit and the warm reception I received.

Probably the most recent Anglo-French town twinning is that between Coniston in Cumbria and Illiers-Combray in Eure et Loire. This jumelage was finalised last February, when the

Mayor of Illiers-Combray and representatives came to Coniston to sign the twinning agreement with their Lakeland counterparts.

Pupil and staff exchanges have already taken place between the John Ruskin School, Coniston, and the Collège Marcel Proust in Illiers-Combray. The twinning of these two small towns, associated with these two great writers, owes its success to the commitment and enthusiasm of the twinning committees and all the local people.

I think that both Ruskin and Proust would have approved.

Yours,
CYNTHIA GAMBLE
(Head, European Relations),
University of East London,
Duncan House, High Street, E15,
May 20.

Lively Lowestoft

From Mr David Porter, MP for Waveney (Conservative)

Sir, It's a pity that your reporter who wrote the story of the ending of the twinning links between Lowestoft and Katwijk (May 23) did not do a bit more research into the attractions of Lowestoft as a tourist area.

Lowestoft is the most easterly point of the British Isles, and the South Beach is a national award-winning area. There are parks, gardens, sports facilities, the full range of camping and hotel accommodation to compare with anywhere and for all ages, and we have the only adventure park in East Anglia.

Lowestoft is where the Broads meet the sea and, as its native-born and bred Member of Parliament, I challenge your reporter to see our charms for himself before writing anything else disparaging.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PORTER,
House of Commons,
May 23.

Please hold...

From Mr K. N. Bladen

Sir, I too dislike telephone queuing systems. The trouble with Mr Henry Cooksley's solution (letter, May 16; other letters, May 13, 22) is that companies are quite happy to ignore faxes and posted letters as well.

The system I like least is that which tells you at half-minute intervals you are no further up the queue.

Yours sincerely,
K. N. BLADEN,
57 Little Hill Way,
South Woodgate, Birmingham,
May 16.

Napoleon III's dentist

From Dr P. M. E. Drury

Sir, Howard Davies says, in his review of Beth Archer Brombert's biography of Edouard Manet (May 16), that the main claim to fame of the American dentist Thomas W. Evans was that he "looked after Napoleon III's teeth".

He did have other claims. Following his demonstrations of nitrous oxide anaesthesia in London in March 1868 its use became generally established. Furthermore, he accompanied the Empress Eugénie on her escape from Paris to England in September 1870, the journey being described in some detail in his memoirs.

Yours truly,
P. M. E. DRURY,
80 Green Lane, Liverpool 18,
May 19.

Bowie and Genet

From Mr Alan Read

Sir, David Bowie has not "received a rebuff from the Institute of Contemporary Arts" (Diary, May 10). He is a very welcome contributor to our three-day event, "Incorporated with Art and Genet", and his installation made for the Nash Room will be seen by all who visit the ICA.

David Bowie never intended to "give a lecture" (he is on tour at the time of the event) but if he should wish to in the future we would be delighted to host it.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN READ
(Director of Talks),
Institute of Contemporary Arts,
The Mall, SW1,
May 16.

V&A extension a site for sore eyes?

From Mr Richard Weston

Sir, As a practitioner and supporter of modern architecture I rarely find myself agreeing wholeheartedly with Britain's heritage lobby, but the proposed extension to the Victoria and Albert Museum (report and photograph, May 18) is clearly a carbuncle too far.

If the V&A's Director thinks that it will do for London what the Eiffel Tower did for Paris, perhaps he might like to consider Eiffel's belief that his tower would "have its own beauty" because it conformed to "the first principle of architectural beauty — that the essential lines of a construction be determined by a perfect appropriateness to its use". Daniel Libeskind's extension presumably "works", but it does its best to look as if it couldn't.

The so-called "deconstructivism" promoted by many American intellectuals, of whom Mr Libeskind appears to be one, is not about beauty, but expresses the belief that, after the Holocaust, man must be "decentred" as the subject of architecture.

In a forthcoming book on Modernism I sum up this Post-Modern cult of "violated perfection" as an architecture "designed to discomfort — physically, perceptually and intellectually". These architects appear deeply serene about their work, and there are niche markets worldwide for such delights: but not, let us pray, in South Kensington.

Here, surely, is a worthy cause for the Prince of Wales. For all our sakes I hope he will take up his lance and go to it.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WESTON
(Director),
Radiant World,
57 Lamborne Road, Leicester,
May 18.

From Lord Armstrong of Ilminster

Sir, The trustees of the V&A welcome public discussion of Daniel Libeskind's exciting design concept for the new building, which we hope to be able to put up on the Boilerhouse Yard site, but would like there to be no misunderstanding about the type of construction envisaged.

It will not be a glass building, as you reported. The design concept envisages a space which will be largely based on the top of the building at the back, looking out towards the Pirelli Gardens, which could house observation, information and restaurant facilities for visitors; but the main construction of the building would be intended to be of a solid material with an external cladding, possibly of tiles. That is what will be seen from Exhibition Road.

Yours faithfully,
ARMSTRONG OF ILMINSTER
(Chairman, Board of Trustees),
Victoria and Albert Museum,
South Kensington, SW7,
May 21.

From Mr A. J. Colbert

Sir, The appearance of the proposed Victoria and Albert Museum extension may horrify many but will not shock teachers who have seen national curriculum technology models completed in great haste by disaffected pupils who arrived late for the lesson.

Yours sincerely,
A. J. COLBERT,
25 Leigh Road,
Walsall, West Midlands,
May 18.

Crumbling gravestones

From Mr Arthur S. Daniels

Sir, I was pleased to read your report (May 20) that thousands of inscriptions from crumbling gravestones are being recorded before they are lost to vandals and to the elements.

In 1980 I participated in the recording of all those memorial inscriptions which were legible — and noted the locations of those which were not — in the Lower Arrow Valley in Warwickshire. Subsequent observation has revealed the alarming rate at which many of them have become unreadable.

Elemental forces are largely to blame; but destruction is being wrought as much by the grass-cutter and the tidy-minded as by vandalism: how urgent it is, then, that a proper record be established.

Our records, which are lodged in school and public libraries, with local clergy and at our county records office, have proved invaluable for the study of family history.

Yours faithfully,
A. S. DANIELS
(Committee member, Alcester and District Local History Society),
Rose Cottage, High Street,
Studley, Warwickshire,
May 20.

Time and money

From Mr Daniel Snowman

Sir, "After 170 years of uselessness and £100,000 of refurbishment, the Government is at last proposing to do something with Marble Arch" (leading article, May 21).

I know it seems they have been there a long time. But that long? And spent so little on themselves?

Yours faithfully,
DANIEL SNOWMAN,
46 Molyneux Street, W1,
May 21.

OBITUARIES

PATRICK CARGILL

Patrick Cargill, actor and dramatist, died yesterday aged 77. He was born on June 3, 1918.

PATRICK CARGILL was the star of two immensely popular situation comedies of the 1970s, *Father, Dear Father* and *The Many Wives of Patrick*. The first of these elevated Cargill from a familiar-looking character actor whose name no one could ever quite remember to a household hero among harassed fathers of teenage daughters. Having come up the hard way, through years of repertory theatre, Cargill was amused by the sudden rise in his stock: "It's perfectly hilarious the way I get accosted by everyone from bowler-hatted business types on the Tube to Covent Garden porters, telling me they have daughters like mine. Apparently having daughters is a perfectly classless thing."

Cargill was a light, suave actor, whose impeccable comic talents were not notably stretched by some of the television work he took on. They were seen to better advantage in a production such as the Caryl Brahms and Ned Sherrin adaptation of Feydeau farces, *Ooh La La!*. In the late 1960s, contrary to the sort of parts he played, Cargill was neither a worn-down father nor an habitual womaniser in real life. He was a bachelor who surrounded himself at home with a regular menagerie of animals, and who talked about acting with schoolboyish enthusiasm. But fate had given him the sort of sharp, haughty face and heavy-lidded, world-weary expression which immediately conjured up libertines and villains. It was a face reminiscent of dry Martinis and white Jaguars.

Edward Sydney Patrick Cargill seemed destined from childhood for a very different life. His father was a major in the Indian Army. After his younger brother had died in a boating accident in India, Patrick reluctantly considered himself bound for a military career in order to please his father. He went from Haileybury to Sandhurst then on to India as a young officer. But he changed his mind when he was out there and resigned his commission.

Family tradition had collided with the smell of the greasy paint, and lost. Cargill had grasped every opportunity to appear on stage as a youth, having taken his first role in a school play as Lady Macbeth. He returned to Britain with ten shillings in his pocket. He made his inauspicious professional debut at Bechill-on-Sea, dressed as Adam in the Garden of Eden wearing nothing but a pair of green flip-flop swimming trunks. But he was briefly pulled back to the Army and he returned to India, this time as an entertainment officer.

After the war he returned to Britain—and to 15 years in repertory theatre. He maintained that a grounding in the theatre was essential for any actor, even for one who wanted to specialise in film and television. The often hilarious, sometimes dispiriting, slog of long runs, back-to-back performances and crowded dressing rooms made Cargill resilient, brought him many friends in the business and provided him with a fund of amusing anecdotes.

He remembered one particular occasion, when he was appearing in an



Cargill, left, as Patrick Glover with his two screen daughters, played by Natasha Pyne and Ann Holloway, and Jeremy Child as Timothy in *Father, Dear Father*, 1972

Agatha Christie play, and had to cry: "You mean it's..." before the interval curtain came down. Cargill delivered the cliff-hanging line, stood there pointing his finger, and waited hopefully. The curtain remained stubbornly raised. He repeated the line several times with mounting embarrassment: "You can't mean it." "Do you really mean to say it's..." before eventually shuffling off into the wings, to find the offending stagehand, drunk, and unconscious next to the curtain.

In his youth Cargill was often cast as villains, and he played these with the right degree of slyness and treachery. Gradually he diversified into comedy. He learnt a good deal about comic timing from his hero, Tony Hancock, and he played the Scottish doctor in Hancock's famous episode *The Blood Donor*. There he uttered the immortal line, "Yes, Mr Hancock, but we're not all Rob Roy's."

He began to write his own scripts and plays and staged a comedy set in a sanatorium, co-written with Jack Beale, *Time on Their Hands*, at the Q Theatre in 1954. *Ring for Cathy* (1956), again set in a hospital, was another moderate success at the Lyric. A more recent play, *Don't Misunderstand Me*, which he toured all over Britain in the 1980s, is about to be performed in Paris.

During the 1960s, with middle age looming, Cargill's professional prospects improved markedly. The revue

High Spirits at the Hippodrome brought good notices, and he became familiar to television audiences through his performance as a secret agent in *Top Secret*, and via appearances on *The Avengers* and *The Prisoner*. He nipped up three-and-a-half years in the successful West End comedy *Boeing-Boeing* at the Apollo, and played Inspector Gluck in the new Beatles film, *Help!* in 1966, while appearing in *Say Who You Are* at Her Majesty's, he was spotted by Charlie Chaplin, and chosen to play the part of Hudson, the gentleman's gentleman, in *A Countess from Hong Kong*.

In 1967 Cargill had his big break when he was offered the chance of his own television situation comedy on ITV, *Father, Dear Father* was written especially for him and cast Cargill as Patrick Glover, a talented thriller writer, but a hopelessly inept father of two mini-skirted teenage daughters. The show was an enormous popular success, not only in Britain but abroad. Cargill's urbane character became so popular in Australia that he lived for a while in Sydney to make a special and popular version of the series.

The adaptations of the Georges Feydeau farces were first televised in the late 1960s, and repeated many times. Cargill played a different character in each of the one-hour dramas. An excellent supporting cast was gathered around him, which included Judi Dench, Joan Sims, Richard Briers

and Bernard Cribbins. There was an elegance about the plays, and an extravagance of language which took Cargill a long way from the occasional banalities he had to utter in modern situation comedy, and he was grateful for the change of pace.

Father, Dear Father ran until 1973. In 1976 Cargill returned to the small screen with *The Many Wives of Patrick*, about a middle-aged playboy who is trying to divorce his sixth wife in order to remarry his first. That show ran until 1980.

Cargill had been one of the inescapable faces of television comedy during the 1970s. In the last decade of his life he returned to his first love, the stage. He starred as Gordon in *Key For Two* at the Vaudeville (1983); Sir Joseph Porter (the Ruler of the Queen's Nave) in *HMS Pinafors* at the Queen Elizabeth Hall; and took the title role in *Captain Beaky* at the Playhouse in 1990. Recently he toured with British Airways Playhouse, run by his friend Derek Nimmo.

When he was young, he had shared his home in Sharn with a cat, hamster, monkey, dog and parrot. In 1987 he moved to Henley, and lived with his ward, James Markowski, and a housekeeper. His health had been frail since last December when it was discovered that he had cancer. But he refused to give up hope, and was determined to beat the illness until only a few days ago.

MICHAEL STOBBS

Michael Stobbs, Fellow of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and assistant director of research in the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy, died from a heart attack on April 26 aged 51. He was born on August 11, 1944.



MICHAEL STOBBS acquired international status as a pioneer of new techniques in electron microscopy. The application of Stobbs's techniques for examining the structure and composition of materials has not only changed the ways in which electron microscopes have been used but has also influenced the way in which modern advanced microscopes are designed.

He was a man who thrived on diversity and the breadth of his work was unparalleled. He led the thinking in a range of widely differing fields of materials science. The key to his extraordinary scope lay in the absolute clarity with which he was able to see thematic links within all areas of his research. Striving to improve the properties of materials, Stobbs initiated an approach to electron microscopy in which the problems he encountered could be solved through the development of new methodologies. Academically and industrially his influence has been far-reaching.

Stobbs was, indeed, much more than an inventor of techniques. His approach allowed him to touch the very heart of a problem—and the solving of complex problems with materials was his abiding passion. He saw no point in developing a useful technique for his own sake, and he put his inventions to immediately practical use. He particularly enjoyed challenging outmoded theories and dogmas.

Many of his papers led to the reappraisal of previously accepted mechanisms, and this initiated a lively and welcome liaison between the academic and the industrial. His sudden death came at a time when he was leading investigations into the understanding of interface controlled properties and transformations.

William Michael Stobbs went up to Cambridge in 1963 where he read Natural Sciences as an Exhibition Scholar at St John's. Graduation was followed by three years in the Cavendish Laboratories, where he did his PhD, and it was during this time that he determined to pursue a research-based career.

Industry immediately acknowledged his potential and he was made a CEBG Research Fellow—a post which he held jointly with the Goldsmiths Research Fellowship at

Churchill College. In 1970 he became a Staff Fellow at Trinity Hall. He also held the Royal Society Armourers and Brasiers Research Fellowship and in 1977 was appointed as an assistant director of research in the Department of Metallurgy and Materials Science under the professorship of Sir Robert Honeycombe (as he now is), who gave him the responsibility of developing research and research training in the area of transmission electron microscopy.

It was in this capacity that Stobbs was to realise his essential aim in helping post-graduates to become what he felt were "good" scientists. For him this involved the pursuit of truth—about which there could be no compromise. A deep moral passion was the driving force behind all his achievements and endeavours.

He was a kind, optimistic and warm-hearted man who had an unshakeable belief in the potential of his students. The number who have gone on to prominent academic or industrial positions is a testament to his innovative thinking and unstinting enthusiasm. Stobbs will be remembered for the way in which he threw himself into projects with unreserved energy and for the astonishing speed with which he was able to assimilate data. He was always excited by the unexpected course a piece of work might take and drew enormous inner satisfaction from seeing a student develop into a scientist. To many he was a mentor.

Michael Stobbs edited the *Journal of Microscopy* and was made editor of the *Philosophical Magazine* in 1990.

Typically, he did this almost single-handedly and was grateful for the opportunity it gave him to explore new fields. He loved to learn in this way. He was made a Doctor of Science in 1985 and awarded the Rosenheim Medal of the Institute of Metals in 1990. Stobbs spent periods working in the United States and Japan but always returned to Cambridge, where he regarded his college, Trinity Hall, as his second home. He never found much satisfaction in lecturing, and yet Trinity Hall was where he committed himself to undergraduates. For nearly twenty years he was director of studies in Natural Sciences and in this capacity he shaped the lives of many undergraduates through his personal teaching and his sensitivity as a tutor.

Stobbs cared deeply about undergraduates' wellbeing and progress. He believed wholeheartedly in the merits of the collegiate system, and for several years played a major role in undergraduate admissions in the sciences.

Michael Stobbs had a distinctive physical appearance, and he dressed as he liked and rarely as convention would have it. He was an immediately recognisable figure in Cambridge as he walked at a considerable pace from department to college, deep in thought. He was a man devoted to his family, of whom he was immensely proud. He derived enormous pleasure from family life and always acknowledged the strength and support that his family gave him.

He is survived by his wife, Susan, whom he married in 1965, and by their two sons.

WILLIAM LAWRENCE

William Lawrence, Chief Constable, South Wales Constabulary, since 1989, died of cancer on May 21 aged 53. He was born on September 21, 1942.

THE longest serving Chief Constable of the South Wales police force, Robert Lawrence successfully led his team through one of the most

difficult periods in its history. A man of great determination, he was involved in tough and tense negotiations with the Home Office in 1993 at the height of a financial crisis when serious underfunding put the efficiency and effectiveness of his force under threat. With his officers working in run-down buildings and driving patrol cars with more than

150,000 miles on the clock, Lawrence gave warning that, unless the Government could provide him with more money, he would have to consider serious manpower cuts. This, he said, could result in chaos. Lawrence's ultimate success in gaining the necessary funds was a tribute to his tenacity. In 1993 he attracted consid-

erable press attention when he urged members of the Royal Family to stop visiting South Wales because, in the face of severe budget cuts, he could no longer afford to guard them. Visits from the Prince of Wales, he said, involved diverting funds from other policing projects. William Robert Lawrence was born in Ystradgynlais,

Powys, and educated at Maesdydderwen Grammar School. He began his police career in 1961 when he joined the Mid Wales Constabulary, later to become part of Dyfed-Powys Police. He was promoted to sergeant in 1970, inspector in 1972 and three years later, in 1975, to chief inspector.

In 1978 he was transferred to the West Mercia police on promotion to superintendent and, in 1982, was promoted to chief superintendent in the role of divisional commander. A year later he was appointed Assistant Chief Constable of Staffordshire Police, later being promoted once more to the rank of Deputy Chief Constable and subsequently, Acting Chief Constable. He also studied during this time with the Open University and gained a BA in 1988.

On May 1, 1989, Lawrence took over the helm as Chief Constable of the South Wales Constabulary. But he never forgot his roots and carried out his role as a Chief Constable with attentive concern for

the lot of the "bobby on the beat".

A compassionate man and an attentive listener, Lawrence believed that policing was all about people. He was also a challenging conversationalist with an acute memory and a remarkable ability to encompass and understand the finest details. His breadth of vision extended well beyond policing circles.

In 1991 he was awarded the Queen's Police Medal. He also held the Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and served as a Brother in the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem.

He was a vociferous spectator at police rugby matches, a keen fisherman and a supporter of amateur boxing. He was also an enthusiastic golfer and even while recovering from major surgery during his last illness would continue, with typical determination, to play all 18 holes on the course.

He is survived by his wife Kathleen and by a daughter and a son.



PERSONAL COLUMN

UK HOLIDAYS

CENTRAL London, Superior Service, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517, 519, 521, 523, 525, 527, 529, 531, 533, 535, 537, 539, 541, 543, 545, 547, 549, 551, 553, 555, 557, 559, 561, 563, 565, 567, 569, 571, 573, 575, 577, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 589, 591, 593, 595, 597, 599, 601, 603, 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615, 617, 619, 621, 623, 625, 627, 629, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 641, 643, 645, 647, 649, 651, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663, 665, 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Rifkind warns of long 'beef war'

Malcolm Rifkind warned Europe last night that Britain's campaign of non-co-operation may continue until the autumn unless there is agreement to lift the beef ban.

The Foreign Secretary hardened Britain's position over the beef crisis after John Major held the first meeting of his so-called "war cabinet" to decide tactics in the offensive against the rest of the European Union. **Pages 1, 2**

Victim of 'road rage' begged for mercy

A girl who saw her fiancé stabbed to death during a "road rage" attack last Sunday described how she pleaded with the killer not to hurt him. Danielle Cable, 17, a waitress, said other motorists near the M25 in Kent ignored her requests and she was helpless as her boyfriend, Stephen Cameron, 21, died in her arms. **Page 1**

Fighting Howard

Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, backed by former Tory ministers and other peers, told the Government they would seek to block flagship plans for tougher jail sentences. **Page 1**

Hacker's US attack

A teenage hacker in London took control of the computer network at a top US Air Force research laboratory, investigators in Washington said. **Page 1**

Labour's loss

Rumours of a rift between two politicians lost the Labour Party a key London council after a stormy meeting last night. **Page 3**

Editor admonished

The Editor of the *Sunday Express* acted in an utterly irrational and whimsical fashion when she dismissed a highly regarded male executive, an industrial tribunal chairman said. **Page 5**

Ticket turmoil

Ticket sales for Euro 96 were in turmoil as about 1,000 Wembley seats destined for Dutch supporters were withheld because they were in areas reserved for English fans. **Page 6**

Army veteran jailed

A former soldier developed such a hatred of homosexuals after he was raped by a colleague in the Army that he tried to kill a man who picked him up in a bar, the Old Bailey was told. **Page 8**

French honour Briton's courage

A British woman who joined the French Foreign Legion in 1940 and played a key role in one of the most important Second World War battles has been awarded the coveted Légion d'honneur. Suzan Schlegelmich (née Travers), 86, was presented with the award at her home outside Paris this week by General Hugues Geoffroy. **Page 16**



Adam Faith, the actor, with eight-month-old Josh Wells at yesterday's launch of the Heart of Britain fund-raising campaign, which aims to raise £1.5 million for the Royal Brompton Hospital in London. Josh has undergone heart surgery at the hospital.

Economy: Britain's manufacturing industry remains weak, evidence from business shows today after government figures yesterday suggested the sector is set to perform poorly for some time. **Page 25**

Cable: Cable and Wireless said it is in partnership talks with several firms after failed negotiations with British Telecom. **Page 25**

Body Shop: Gordon Roddick, the chairman of Body Shop, and Anita Roddick, its chief executive, have bucked the trend for huge boardroom pay rises. **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 17.2 points to end at 3747.0. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 84.6 to 84.8 after a rise from \$1.5103 to \$1.5132 and from DM2.3237 to DM2.3311. **Page 28**

Cricket: Chris Lewis took four wickets in 21 balls to leave India struggling at 96 for five in pursuit of England's 291 for eight in the first Test match at the Oval. **Page 48**

Football: England beat China 3-0 in Peking. Two goals by Nick Barmby and a third by Paul Gascoigne were apt reward for their professionalism. **Page 48**

Rugby union: English rugby should know where it stands after today's meeting of the full committee to discuss the direction of the professional game. **Page 42**

Racing: One of the most remarkable chapters in British racing this century draws to a close next month when Lord Hartington relinquishes the helm. **Page 41**

Musical departure: David Leveaux, better known as Harold Pinter's favourite director, turns his theatrical talents on a new production of *Salome* for English National Opera. **Page 35**

Theatrical highs: The prolific playwright Peter Whelan scores again with *The Herbal Bed*, while the Maly Drama Theatre Company from St Petersburg is not to be missed in Nottingham. **Page 35**

Blues man: Keb' Mo', one of the fastest rising blues stars, brings his guitar to the London Blues Festival this weekend. **Page 36**

Pop albums: Violent images and a shuffling hip-hop beat from the gangsta rapper Ice T; seedy glamour from Peter Perret, the man touched by a frail genius. **Page 37**

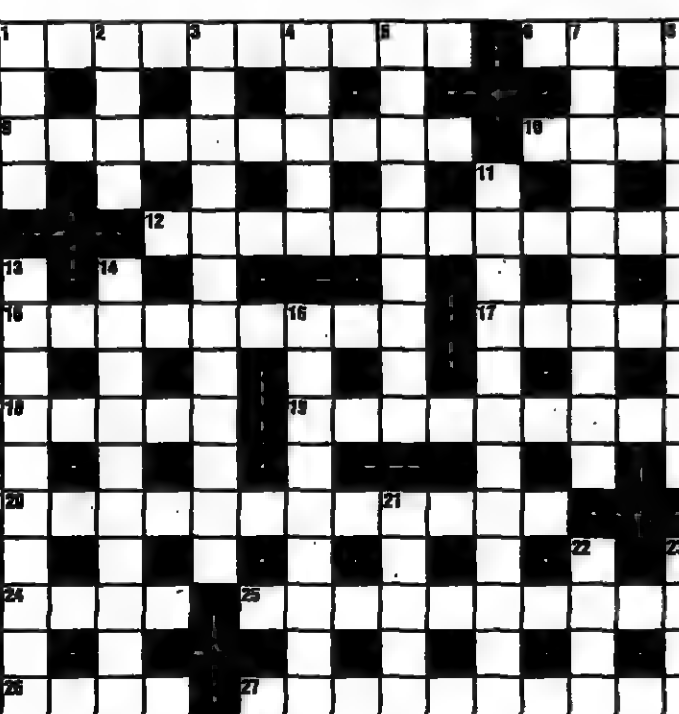
TOMORROW

WIN VIP TICKETS
An all-inclusive tennis weekend for two to be won, with centre court tickets for the Stella Artois Championships

PLUS...
Best of the Bank Holiday TV and radio in Vision, the 7-day guide



THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,176



ACROSS

- Send off letters that may appear under one's name (10).
- Stuff rejected as basis for brandy (4).
- Prerogatives of father - Aeneas's (10).
- Sort of ballads acceptable for Hindu gentleman (4).
- Neath operative's unexpressed emotion (12).
- Jumping ball - due in, but not available for hearing (9).
- Work steadily to grasp popular historian (5).
- Seeing state of course, enter gelding (5).
- Italian given extremely cosy home, say - in old Venice, for example (4,5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,175

FIREFLIGHT BANG
EINUAUO
CASTOFF MISDEAL
HIDAEON
EASTERNER LEAVE
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STAIR ABSTAINER
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DOWN

- Notice a sort of light pastry (4).
- A cleaner programme? (4).
- Burns classification is postgraduate's objective (6-6).
- Bra is expected to offer uplift (5).
- Having advance knowledge sent price tumbling (9).
- Bill a state cut by half for a university (10).
- Rustics Antony asked for a loan? (10).
- Abstracted what's second-hand? (12).
- Nasty housework - one's going, at last, to get stuck in (10).
- Turn to account, I see, that's unfinished (10).
- Cold tea served in far from exciting orgy (9).
- Disorder in city street is upsetting (5).
- Order a tub (4).
- Finish second best (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 48

FORECAST

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0801 500 followed by the appropriate code:
Greater London 701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex 702
Dorset, Devon & Cornwall 703
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset 704
Berkshire, Oxfordshire 705
Bedfordshire & Essex 706
Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire 707
West Midlands & Shropshire 708
Shropshire, Herefordshire & Worcestershire 709
Central Midlands 710
East Midlands 711
Lincolnshire & Humberside 712
Derbyshire & Leicestershire 713
Yorkshire & Cleveland 714
North Yorkshire 715
West Yorkshire & Lancashire 716
North East 717
Cumbria & Lancashire 718
South West 719
West Central Scotland 720
East of Scotland 721
Edinburgh & Borders 722
East of Scotland 723
Glasgow & Highlands 724
North West 725
Cheshire, Merseyside & Lancashire 726
North Wales 727
Wales & the Marches 728
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AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: bright, clear, dry, with sunny intervals. High 1000 ft. Low 950 ft. Wind S.W. 10-15 mph. Rain 0.1 in. Fog 0.1 in. Snow 0.1 in. Ice 0.1 in. Thunder 0.1 in. Hail 0.1 in. Wind speed (mph) 10-15. Direction S.W. Sea conditions calm.

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Air UK

FORECAST

General: Northern and central areas of England and Wales will have a bright day with sunny periods. Showers are most likely in the north where a few may turn heavy, but should generally die away again later. In the south a wet and windy morning will be replaced by brighter conditions spreading from the north, though not into Kent, until afternoon. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have bright or sunny weather with showers. Over Scotland the showers may be prolonged at times, and perhaps thundery, but much of the showeriness will peter out by evening.
London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, Cheshire, SW England: overcast and wet. Rain gradually clearing from north. Brighter later. Winds strong southwest, easing. Cool. Max 17C (63F).
E England, W Midlands, S Wales, Central N England: early cloud clearing. Bright with sunny periods. Winds brisk southwesterly, easing. Mild. Max 17C (63F).
N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow: bright with sunny periods. Showers developing in afternoon. Winds light southwest, blustery in showers. Mild. Max 16C (61F).
Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NW Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: bright or sunny intervals and showers. The showers heavy at times, perhaps thundery. Showers becoming prolonged for a time in afternoon, largely dying out later. Winds light southwest, gusty in showers. Cool. Max 15C (59F).
N Ireland: bright with showers, sunny intervals between showers. Winds moderate southwest, gusting in showers. Cool. Max 14C (57F).
Outlook: bright and dry on Saturday, rain on Sunday, though northern Scotland staying bright.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

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ARTS 35-37

David Leveaux, theatre's man of the world



EDUCATION 39

The school that specialises in dyslexic children



SPORT 40-48

Lewis rediscovers his rhythm as England call tune

TELEVISION AND RADIO
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY MAY 24 1996

RK

Japanese bank in line to buy MoD married quarters

By Jason Nisse

NOMURA INTERNATIONAL, the Japanese bank, is on the shortlist for the £1.6 billion privatisation of Ministry of Defence married quarters. It is one of four names recommended to Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, by NatWest Markets.

The others are British Land, the property giant, ING Barings, the merchant bank, and a consortium led by John Beckwith, the property developer, and backed by Lehman Brothers, the US bank. The price tag is in the region of

£1.6 billion, slightly more than the ministry had expected when it put the portfolio of 55,000 homes on the market last year. However, it is understood that NatWest Markets rejected an even higher offer because of fears about the bid's financial credibility. Nineteen bidders put in offers for the portfolio, which has a rental income of £107 million a year but needs a great deal of work. More than 2,700 of the homes are currently vacant.

Nomura's bid is sure to cause a political storm. The Army Families Federation has already written to MPs expressing "extreme disquiet" about the sale, and their protests are likely to intensify if the homes are sold to a Japanese buyer. Nomura caused controversy last year when it snapped up a third of Britain's trains in a £628 million deal as part of the privatisation of British Rail.

British Land, John Ritblat's property group, which owns Plantation House in the City, is believed to be one of the strongest contenders. It is backed by Morgan Stanley, the American bank. The offer from Beckwith Capital Partners is the latest stage in the re-

emergence of John Beckwith and his brother Peter in the property market. John Beckwith left London & Edinburgh Trust, the company they founded, in 1993 after its takeover by SPP, the Swedish group. The brothers recently took control of Harlequins, the rugby union football club, through Riverside, their sports club company. Among the bids thrown out by NatWest were two consortia backed by Halifax and Nationwide. Britain's largest building societies. The Halifax consortium offered about £1.45 billion and included Legal & General, the insurer, and the property management arm of Johnson Fry. Owen Inskip, of Johnson Fry, said: "If this is viewed as a purely financial transaction, problems will emerge if there is not serious housing management experience in the team."

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES	
FT-SE 100	3747.0 (-17.2)
Yield	4.03%
FT-SE All share	1885.24 (-7.28)
Nikkei	21724.08 (-233.92)
Dow Jones	5764.70 (-13.30)
S&P Composite	579.40 (-0.58)
US RATE	
Federal Funds	5.75% (5.75%)
Long Bond	88.75% (88.75%)
Yield	8.53% (8.53%)
LONDON MONEY	
3-month interbank	8 1/4% (8 1/4%)
Libor 3m	106 3/4% (106 3/4%)
STERLING	
New York	1.5138* (1.5080)
London	1.5126 (1.5102)
DM	2.3301 (2.3258)
FF	7.8884 (7.8714)
Sfr	1.3112 (1.3111)
Yen	161.81 (161.81)
£ Index	84.8 (84.8)
DOLLAR	
London	1.5403* (1.5403)
DM	6.2150* (6.2250)
FF	1.2630* (1.2685)
Yen	106.70* (107.18)
£ Index	97.2 (97.2)
Tokyo close Yen	106.85
NORTH SEA OIL	
Brent 15-day (Aug)	\$18.36 (\$18.45)
GOLD	
London close	\$391.55 (\$391.85)

CBI fears prolonged slump at factories

By Philip Bassett and Janet Bush

BRITAIN'S manufacturing industry remains weak, new evidence from business shows today, the day after Government figures suggested that manufacturing is likely to perform poorly for some months to come. Manufacturing orders are at their lowest for two and a half years, the Confederation of British Industry says today, and an increase in retail sales yesterday suggested that the service sector is continuing to outperform manufacturing.

In its latest monthly industrial trends survey today, the CBI says that manufacturing demand remains weak, with orders again below normal in May. A net balance of 17 per cent of companies surveyed — those saying orders are above normal set against those saying they are below — reported order books below their usual levels. The CBI says this figure, the same as the order book level in April, shows clearly that orders are not improving. Manufacturing orders have now been below normal for nine successive months, and are at their lowest level in a CBI monthly survey since December 1993.

While manufacturers expect output to rise over the next four months, CBI analysts acknowledge an increasing gap between what companies believe they will see and their performance. Although export demand improved slightly last month, export orders are still below normal. Business leaders are concerned that the build-up in stocks of finished goods — the CBI's survey of 1,300 manufacturers shows the highest recorded level of stocks since June 1991 — poses a threat to the industry's recovery. CBI leaders say the stock build-up suggests manufacturers "could be disappointed by the pace of growth over the coming months".

Sudhir Junankar, CBI associate economics director, says: "Manufacturing demand is likely to remain weak while the slight revival in exports over the past month remains fragile as short-term growth prospects in our key European markets are poor." A more detailed breakdown of growth in the fourth quarter, published yesterday by the Office for National Statistics, suggested that manufacturing is likely to remain weak for some months. Gross domestic product rose by 0.4 per cent in the first quarter, up 2 per cent year on year. While this was unchanged from the preliminary estimate, exports and investment remained weak. Far from starting to draw down huge stocks built up last year when firms were caught out by falling demand at home and in key European export markets, companies built up stocks even further. The build-up of stocks last year added significantly to economic growth. Conversely, when companies eventually start cutting stock levels, GDP will be depressed. Andy Cates, of stockbrokers UBS Ltd, said that, at this rate, the Chancellor's forecast of 3 per cent growth this year looked like fantasy. Consumer spending was the main engine for growth, with a rise of 0.8 per cent but was not seen as dramatic. Retail sales volumes rose by only 0.2 per cent in April, compared with March, lower than the 0.5 per cent expected in the City. There was a drop of 1.5 per cent in sales of household goods, which was seen as disappointing given evidence of a housing market revival. However, in the three months to April, sales were up 0.7 per cent on the previous three — judged a relatively healthy performance.

CBI warning, page 26



Increased dividends mean Anita and Gordon Roddick will take home nearly £1 million each

Roddicks turn down salary rise to £300,000

By Sarah Cunningham

GORDON RODDICK, the chairman of Body Shop, and Anita Roddick, its chief executive, have once again taken the moral high ground, bucking the trend for huge boardroom pay rises. The couple have declined a suggestion from the company's remuneration committee that they each be paid £300,000 per year, the annual report reveals. Instead they are to be paid £135,000 each, which is less than the company's managing director, legal director and director in charge of its US operations. The couple's gesture looks less magnanimous, however, if one takes into account the fact that the Body Shop, criticised in the past for being mean with its dividend, this year increased it by 1p to 3.4p. One effect of this is that the Roddicks, the two largest shareholders, will both receive about £240,000 more than last year in dividend payments. Taking these into account, each will take home nearly £1 million.

Also to be borne in mind is that fact that Mr Roddick himself chairs the committee which made the recommendation on pay. His wife is also on the committee, along with the company's two non-executive directors. A spokesman for the Body Shop said Mr Roddick had no explanation for not taking the big pay rise: "He quite simply did not want to accept it," he said. Anita and Gordon Roddick's basic pay, up from £123,000 last year, will be supplemented by benefits which take them both to £148,000. Dividends on Anita Roddick's 24,010,456 shares will provide her with an additional £816,355, compared with £576,251 in 1995. Her husband's 24,226,680 shares will provide him with £823,707 in dividends, compared with £581,440 last year. The company set up the remuneration committee last year. It is in charge of setting pay and conditions for the executive directors and it takes independent advice to ensure that they are in line with those at comparable companies.

City Diary, page 29

Clarke moves on tax deal

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

KENNETH CLARKE, the Chancellor, yesterday asked the Securities and Investments Board to investigate reform of the current tax benefits for market-makers.

As revealed in *The Times* on Wednesday, he said he saw some merit in maintaining privileges for market-makers who provide extra liquidity to

the market. But he said new rules would need to be readily policed and enforceable and should not have an adverse effect on competition. The Treasury said that in return for exemption from stamp duty, market-makers would have to "make a significant contribution to price setting as well as pre-sale market trans-

parency and contribute substantial extra liquidity to the market."

Angela Knight, the Economic Secretary, said: "The tax system... should also ensure competition, fairness and liquidity in the trading of UK equities."

Cable and Wireless seeks international alliances

By Eric Reguly

CABLE AND WIRELESS said yesterday that it is holding partnership talks with a variety of international companies in the wake of the failure of its merger negotiations with BT. News of the various talks came as C&W reported a 59 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £1.34 billion, in the year to the March 31, on turnover of £5.52 billion, up 7 per cent. Earnings per share were 27.5p, compared with 11.5p. The talks probably will lead to the formation of new alliances in several countries, but not an outright merger or takeover. Brian Smith, C&W's chairman, said C&W is effect-

ively bid-proof because the regulatory hurdles of buying a company with operating licences in some 50 countries were too great. Smaller deals, however, are likely after Richard Brown, the new chief executive, takes up his post in July. C&W, for example, wants to find a partner to strengthen its relatively small American operations. It is also in talks to form an alliance with Stet, the Italian telecoms group. In Britain, Mercury Communications, which is 80 per cent owned by C&W, is forging commercial links with the cable companies and may cement the relationship

through equity swaps, a merger or even takeovers. Peter Howell-Davies, Mercury's chief executive, said: "Our relationship with the cable companies is one of the most important issues we need to address this year." C&W's sharp rise in pre-tax profits was largely because of the £199 million gain on the sale of a minority stake in a German mobile phone company. Pre-tax profits before exceptional items were up 10 per cent to £1.26 billion. Mercury's operating profits were £231 million, up 14 per cent. A final dividend of 6.92p, making a total of 10p, up 10.5 per cent, is to be paid on September 2.

Saatchi & Saatchi slips to fourth place

By Eric Reguly

SAATCHI & SAATCHI has lost its billing as the country's largest advertising agency for the first time since 1988. A survey published yesterday by *Marketing Week* shows that Saatchi, which is perhaps best known for its Conservative Party campaigns, has slipped to fourth place, behind J Walter Thompson, Abbott Mead Vickers BBDO and Ogilvy & Mather.

The fall from fame came after Maurice Saatchi, the agency's founder, was forced out. He started his own agency called M&C Saatchi, and took with him some of his old clients, including British Airways, Mars, Dixons and Silk Cut. They collectively spent £98 million on advertising, putting M&C Saatchi 17th in the top 25 table. Saatchi & Saatchi is now one of two agencies owned by Cordiant. The survey revealed that its clients spent £232.2 million in advertising in the year to March 31, against £325 million the previous year. J Walter Thompson's clients, including Kellogg and Benson & Hedges, spent £269 million, up from £257 million. Saatchi & Saatchi continues to lose clients but the agency is optimistic. Tamara Ingram, joint managing director, said: "We've got a lot more business coming through and we aim to be number one again."

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Nuclear fuel levy may be less than expected

By Philip Bassett

THE Government expects to cut back the nuclear industry's fossil fuel levy by less than ministers had hoped, which may in turn feed through to a smaller fall in electricity prices when the industry is privatised.

Stephen Littlechild, the Director-General of Electricity Supply, expects to announce a reduction in the levy — payment made to the electricity industry to fund its use of nuclear-generated power — when nuclear is privatised later this summer.

Ministers have made it clear that the current levy rate of 10 per cent of the value of electricity sales is likely to fall by up to 3 percentage points, to a level of around 2 per cent.

But ministers said yesterday that current calculations were suggesting a smaller fall in the levy rate of 5.5-7 percentage points, suggesting a levy rate of around 3-4.5 per cent.

Tim Eggar, Energy and Industry Minister, said the complex calculations to finalise the new rate were not yet completed, but he indicated they were suggesting a lower level than forecast, insisting that it was inside the range of up to 3 percentage points.

Launching the Government's annual Energy Report, Mr Eggar cited as clear evidence of success in the energy sector changes in energy prices, with the "overriding message" for the year being lower gas and electricity prices for domestic and industrial customers.

In inflation-adjusted terms, annual average domestic electricity prices are at their lowest now since 1974, he said, and 1980 for gas. Industrial electricity prices are lower than any year since records began, and industrial gas prices are now about half their level a decade ago.

Glenmorangie aims to tap export growth



Geoffrey Maddrell, left, and Peter Darbyshire, managing director, announced a 15 per cent rise in pre-tax profits on the back of stronger margins

GEOFFREY MADDRELL, chairman of Glenmorangie, said the company was aiming to continue its export drive and increase sales of own-brand products over the coming year (Alasdair Murray writes).

The whisky company now supplies 13 retailers, primarily in the UK and France, with own-brand premium whisky. Exports sales to the US increased

80 per cent, with exports making up about 40 per cent of total sales. Mr Maddrell added that the company was building a position in India and was set to launch in China this year.

Glenmorangie, which was formerly known as Macdonald Martin Distilleries, yesterday announced a 15 per cent increase in full-year pre-tax

profits to £6.6 million. Overall turnover rose 10 per cent to £39 million while case sales increased 21 per cent, bucking the sector trend.

The underlying operating margin increased 7 per cent to 22.4 per cent. The final dividend was increased 13.5 per cent to 9.25p for "A" shares, payable on July 26.

CBI says PSBR overshoot threatens pre-poll tax cuts

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

THE Government's scope for pre-election tax cuts may "evaporate" if public borrowing continues to overshoot, the Confederation of British Industry says today.

The CBI's warning comes as the latest survey of business leaders' voting intentions from the Institute of Management shows no improvement in support for the Conservatives.

The warning about the possibly limited scope for pre-election tax cuts comes in the CBI's economic forecasts published today. Though much of

the forecast is unchanged from the CBI's February estimates, the confederation says that the continuing overshoot in the PSBR, particularly if it continues throughout the year, may well mean that on tax cuts "the room for manoeuvre seems at present very limited".

After examining the short-fall in VAT receipts, which caused the PSBR to end 1995-96 at £31.9 billion, almost £3 billion above the Treasury's own forecast of six months earlier, the "tentative" forecast

today by CBI economists is that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, will be able to cut personal taxes by only £2 billion, or 1p in the pound, in his November Budget — though they suggest that the Chancellor will have some further room by way of a £1 billion cut in public spending.

Noting that if an election has not been held by then that the "political pressure on the Chancellor will be as strong as ever for tax cuts", the CBI says: "If PSBR outturns continue to be higher than in our

forecast, then the scope for tax cuts may evaporate if the Government is to achieve its PSBR targets."

However, the CBI is still suggesting that growth overall will pick up later this year, with GDP forecast to grow by a "robust" 3 per cent in 1996. Kate Barker, the CBI's chief economic adviser, says today: "We are not talking about the 'feel-good' factor coming back. But we are talking about people feeling better through-out this year and next."

Business support for the

Conservatives is still low, according to a survey of 465 managers across industry by the Institute of Management. The survey shows that Conservative support among managers now stands at 42 per cent — down from 43 per cent in February and from 62 per cent at the time of the 1992 general election.

Backing for Labour among managers has doubled since the general election, and now stands at 26 per cent — up from 25 per cent in the IOM's last survey.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Lawrence payoff is less than predicted

THE Stock Exchange is to reveal a £350,000 payoff for Michael Lawrence, the chief executive sacked in January. The figure — lower than the £400,000 expected by observers — will be revealed next month in the Exchange's annual report.

Yesterday the Exchange unveiled a 9 per cent fall in its underlying costs to £161.3 million for the year to March 31. There has been huge debate over how it will manage once it loses its share settlement role next month with the introduction of paperless share settlement under Crest. Last year's total income of £196.1 million included £66.6 million from settlement.

Pennington, page 27

Telewest raises £1.2bn

TELEWEST Communications, Britain's largest cable company, has raised £1.2 billion in debt to fund completion of its network in 1998. The company said the four and a half-year revolving loan by British, American and Canadian banks was arranged at a "very favourable" rate but would not elaborate. The network is about 53 per cent completed and analysts expect the company to end the year with positive operating cashflow. Telewest also plans to introduce number portability in August or September.

Temps, page 28

Liability campaign boost

THE campaign by the accountancy profession to win reform of the law on professional liability is growing through support from other professions. A letter was sent yesterday to Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, urging him to set up a review of the principle of joint and several liability. Apart from the main UK accountancy bodies, signatories included the 100 Group of Finance Directors, the Institute of Actuaries, the National Association of Pension Funds and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Pennington, page 27

Pep rules tightened

SCOTTISH AMICABLE is to contest an official rule change that blocks attempts to circumvent the £5,000 personal equity plan limit. The Inland Revenue's move threatens a Pep recently launched by Scottish Amicable in which as much as £50,000 could be invested. The company claimed yesterday that the Revenue had examined the scheme in February. A spokesman said yesterday: "We believe that retrospective intervention by the Revenue more than three weeks into a six-week offer period raises serious issues for the investing public."

Water bid goes to MMC

GENERAL UTILITIES and Saur, French owners of the Folkestone, Dover and South East water companies, yesterday won the first round in their hostile bid for Mid Kent Holdings when the Department of Trade and Industry agreed to refer their bid directly to the MMC. Mid Kent had argued the bid was illegal, after GU gave assurances in 1989 that it would not increase its 19.5 per cent stake in the water company. Last month, the High Court referred the matter to the DTI, which has decided the MMC should resolve all issues.

British Steel action

BRITISH STEEL is to start legal action against the European Commission over £39 million in state subsidies given to Irish Steel. The action will challenge the legality of the financial support under article 95 of the Treaty of Paris. British Steel argues Irish Steel will be free to raise production from 266,000 tonnes to 450,000 tonnes by the end of the decade, putting at risk 500 jobs in the UK. In June 1994 British Steel began legal challenges to state aid given to Ilva, Italian steel maker, and CSI of Spain.

Cranswick sales rise

CRANSWICK, the company which produces animal feeds and breeds pigs, recorded a 22 per cent sales increase to £142 million in the year to March 31, helped by a 75 per cent lift in the average price of pig to 140p per kilo. However, an increase in grain price and interest charges of £276,000 hit pre-tax profits, which nudged up 2.7 per cent to £3.12 million. Sales in bird feed rose 24 per cent to £9.9 million, 7 per cent of overall sales. The final dividend is 6.6p, making a year total of 9.20p (8.65p). Earnings rose to a record 15.6p (14.6p).

Sales of life and pension policies rebound

By Marianne Curphey

SALES of new life insurance and personal pension policies have started to bounce back after being hit last year by bad publicity and new regulations.

During 1995 sales across the industry fell as the public were reluctant to buy long-term life products after the scandal over the mis-selling of personal pensions. Insurance companies also complained that new rules on disclosure — which governed the sales process — were hampering sales.

However, figures from the Association of British Insurers published yesterday confirmed reports that sales were picking up. New sales across the industry totalled £3.8 billion in the first quarter of the year, up 9 per cent on the corresponding three months of 1995. The ABI figures followed encouraging first-quarter life sales from the composites. Commercial Union said its life profits were up 13 per cent, and General Accident said its acquisition of Provident Mutual, the life company, helped to counter the effects of severe winter weather.

Mark Boleat, ABI director-general, said: "The tentative, first signs of an upturn in new life and pension business, which were evident towards the end of last year, have been reinforced in the first quarter of this year."

□ The State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (Serps), will not be "restored to its former glory" if Labour wins the next election, according to Chris Smith, Labour's Shadow Social Security Secretary.

Grosvenor invests in Dublin venture

FROM EILEEN MCCABE IN DUBLIN

THE Duke of Westminster's Grosvenor Estate Holdings is to invest about £160 million in a joint venture to develop a new shopping centre on the outskirts of Dublin. The investment is the first by the UK property investment and development group in the Republic of Ireland.

Grosvenor's partner in the Quarryvale venture is O'Callaghan Properties, which is based in Cork and Ireland's leading developer of shopping centres.

The new shopping centre will occupy 252,000 sq ft of a 187-acre site at the junction of the N4 and M50 roads to the west of Dublin. O'Callaghan is reported to have spent up to £120 million purchasing the site and securing planning permission for it.

The Grosvenor deal covers only the shopping centre aspect of the development. O'Callaghan has also secured planning permission for a hotel, a cinema, pub, restaurant and commercial buildings.

Already, Marks & Spencer and C&A have signed up as two of the anchor tenants in Quarryvale. The former is already established in Dublin, but Quarryvale will mark C&A's first move into the Republic's retail sector.

Work on the infrastructure for the site is expected to get under way by the end of this month, construction will start in early 1997 and the shopping centre should open the following year.

TOURIST RATES

Australia \$	1.73	Bank	1.73	Bank	1.73	2.54	2.54
Austria Sch	13.76	Bay	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Belgium Fr	20.77	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Canada \$	2.77	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Cyprus Cyp	0.752	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Denmark Kr	8.56	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Finland Mk	2.73	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
France Fr	1.94	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Germany Dm	2.46	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Greece Dr	363.60	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Hong Kong \$	12.32	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Ireland Pt	1.02	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Israel Sh	5.5300	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Italy Lit	2063.00	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Japan Yen	175.40	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Norway Kr	0.589	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Spain Ptas	166.64	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Sweden Kr	8.75	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Switzerland Fr	2.04	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
Turkey Lira	121.800	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36
USA \$	1.507	Br	1.94	Bank	1.94	2.36	2.36

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

POWERGEN plc SCRIP DIVIDEND

Under the PowerGen Scrip Dividend Plan, shareholders can elect, by completing a Mandate form, to receive dividends in shares rather than in cash. This Plan is available to holders of the Interim Rights, as well as to holders of the Ordinary shares.

Subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting on 15 July 1996, the Final Dividend for 1995/96 of 14.5p net per share will be payable on 31 July 1996 to holders of Ordinary shares and of Interim Rights registered in the books of the Company as at the close of business on 11 June 1996.

The Scrip Dividend Plan will apply to this Final Dividend. Shareholders who have already lodged a Mandate need take no further action to continue to receive the Scrip Dividend.

Key dates are as follows:

3 June 1996	Ordinary shares and Interim Rights go ex dividend
7 June 1996	Price of New Share available 5.00pm
11 June 1996	Record Date
2 July 1996	Last date for Mandates or cancellations to be received by Registrars
15 July 1996	Annual General Meeting
30 July 1996	Dividend warrants and New Share certificates posted
31 July 1996	Final Dividend paid. First day of dealings in New Shares

The price of a New Share will be available from 5.00pm on 7 June 1996 by telephoning the Company's Registrars on 0117 976 3005. The Registrars can also supply Mandate forms and deal with any queries.

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□ Continental unrest strikes a warning □ Banks fret over company news delay □ Business balks at the environmental bill

Fighting shy of German practices

GERMANY'S spate of industrial bloodiness may bode ill for New Labour's welfare reform plans. Not because it highlights the costs of welfare hand-outs — those costs have been well known ever since the Federal Republic concocted its blend of generosity and efficiency in the 1950s, and they can hardly come as a surprise in the UK. The real significance of this week's "warning" (warning to whom?) are that they provide a graphic display of German labour inflexibility.

This column argued yesterday that an unseen effect of Labour's punitive taxation plans, which this time will target the rich including the big hitters in the City among others, could be the flight of much of the financial services industry overseas. The City is equally concerned about the effect on inward investment of Labour's social policies. The German experience shows why.

That country's social market model has run its course. Even the Germans can no longer afford to work half as much as the Poles and pay themselves ten times more. But New Labour is explicitly trying to copy the German system, where the workers not the bosses are the fat cats. In his New Labour bible *The State We're In*, Will Hutton says Germany has shown that its muddled brand of capitalism has

given it an "inbuilt competitive advantage".

What the German experience has really shown is that welfare generosity *à la* Bonn is a classic ratchet effect. Once the welfare beneficiaries have received their part of the cake they will regard it as theirs forever. According to *Bild* newspaper, one worker's response to Helmut Kohl's £13 billion spending cuts was that now he could only afford a second-hand car. Germans are taking their privileges for granted. Any future government trying to take it away from them will get a bloody nose — as Herr Kohl is about to find out. Similarly, Tony Blair's stakeholders might rather drive their stake through his heart than hand it back.

The hysterical public reaction in France last year to some distinctly modest proposals for austerity, set for a repeat performance this summer, suggest the same lesson: inflexibility may be the main consequence of Labour's welfare reforms. This is certainly the City's fear: a national minimum wage, a Social Chapter, or a job creation pro-

gramme. If Labour pushes through drastic reforms they will create rigidities. These will not only slow the domestic economy down but also scare away foreign investors.

By comparison, the cost issue is marginal. Money spent on any worthy project is not wasted. And how worthy Labour will be we will not know until Tony Blair and Gordon Brown are neighbours in Downing Street. They will not be signing any "long suicide notes" ahead of an election. But if their plans create inflexibility on a German scale, then they are bad news however worthy they may look.

Time is money even in the City

IT goes against the grain to feel sympathy for the long days put in by the City merchant banks and other advisers, who tend to be paid by the hour. But there is a mood of discontent among the breed at delays at the Exchange's information dissemination system, the Regulatory News Service (RNS).

PENNINGTON



This is the beast that churns out the yards and yards of dull company news that have to be scanned by analysts for the odd nugget of sense, and it is a slow and picky feeder.

The Stock Exchange clearly has higher priorities than RNS. The latest financial results, stripped of one-offs, suggest income may still be running some £10 million below costs and there may be more pain to come even if this summer's Sequence electronic trading system has been self-financing. But coteries of banks have emerged in the past muttering about cutting out RNS altogether even if no one has yet had the bottle to defy the Exchange. They could yet.

At present, it is hard to input

company news electronically because the computers at the exchange are 15 years old. This leads to the daily requirement, reminiscent of old Fleet Street at its worst, for every line of those announcements to be typed in again by hand once delivered in paper form. It all leads to awful logjams during busy periods, such as the early mornings.

There is no natural monopoly held by the RNS — an electronic line to Reuters, whose technology can handle the announcement in seconds, would be quite legal. For its part, the exchange does not deny the system is technologically outmoded. In March, for example, RNS handled almost 10,000 announcements, two thirds of them retyped from hard copy. Distribution of the necessary computer ware to all listed companies is taking place,

but will not be completed before the fourth quarter. Why so long? Must *festina lente* always be the exchange's watchword?

Not too green to fall for business survey

YOU are telephoned by a man with a clipboard. In your normal course of business do you A) care deeply about the environment; or B) prefer to hash seal cubs over the head with baseball bats made out of irreplaceable tropical hardwoods?

Do you A) worry about the health and safety of your employees; or B) routinely work them to death and poison the swine when they run out of puff? And would you like the taxpayer to pay you to be more environmentally friendly? Note that there is no alternative to this question.

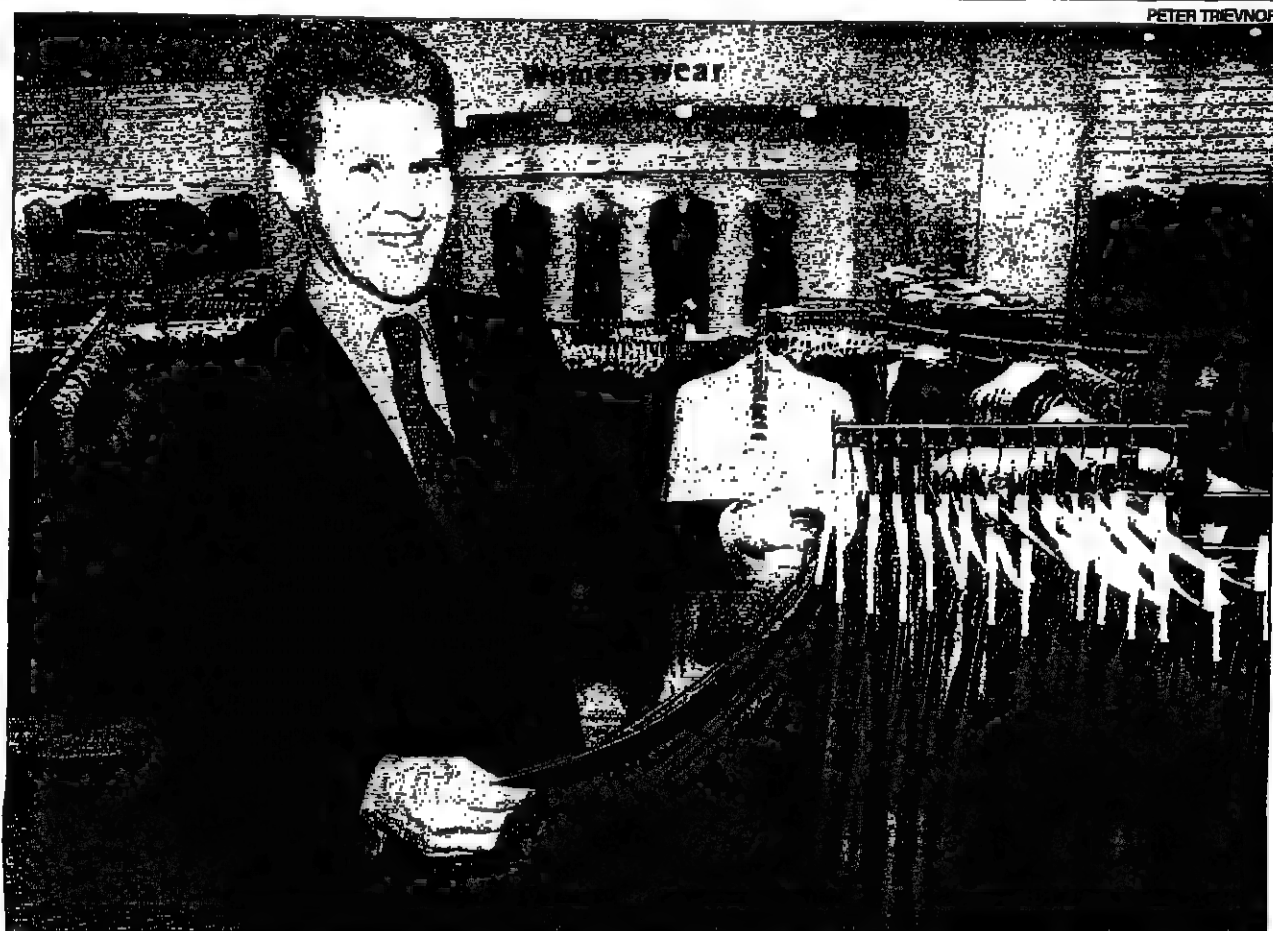
Welcome again to the world of self-fufilling surveys. The latest "proves" that seven out of ten companies now care more about the environment than they did a year previously. This rather makes one wonder about the other three. Have they reached a

state of Nirvana-like perfection, at which lofty plane they could not possibly care more. Or couldn't they care less?

Anyone who has picked up the phone and discovered one of these clipboards on the other end knows the heart-sinking realisation that a good half hour is about to be wasted. The real fear is that they might somehow influence public policy — catch a politician at a moment of weakness, perhaps. This survey reaches the astounding conclusion that one thing holding companies back from implementing green policies is the cost. They are none too keen on picking up the tab, naturally, in the form of extra tax and charges. Instead, they want incentives or tax breaks. So who should pay for greener business? You guessed it — you and me.

Balance of blame

THERE is something unedifying about the sight of the big accountants hurrying off to Jersey to form limited liability partnerships. They insist this is their best protection against huge civil actions. Meanwhile, various professions, including the bean-counters, are demanding government action to limit partners' joint and several liability. But how many votes are there in protecting accountants?



Keith Edelman, Storehouse chief executive, at Bhs in Reading yesterday when the group reported a successful year

Storehouse results lifted by Mothercare profit leap

By SARAH BAGNALL

STOREHOUSE, the Mothercare to Bhs retail group, managed to squeeze more money out of sales last year, helping to drive pre-tax profits up by 21 per cent, to £109.9 million, in the year to March 30.

The better than expected rise in profits reflected fewer markdowns, which helped to lift gross margins by more than 1.5 percentage points.

Keith Edelman, chief execu-

tive, said: "Storehouse has had another successful year." He added that the current year "has started steadily", and he joined other leading retailers in saying that there was evidence of a revival in consumer confidence, but "we expect the overall retail environment will be as challenging this year as last".

The advance in profits was achieved on the back of a 4.6 per cent rise in sales to £1.08

billion. After stripping out the figures for One Up, the chain of clothing stores sold last June, group sales rose by 3 per cent. The sale of the stores resulted in a £1.2 million exceptional profit.

The biggest jump in profits was achieved by Mothercare, which notched up a 42 per cent leap in operating profits, to £24.2 million. The advance follows a 68 per cent increase in profits in the previous year.

Sales rose 4 per cent to £319.8 million, while like-for-like sales fell by 1 per cent. As a result the rise in profits reflected a healthy 2.1 percentage point rise in the 272-strong chain's operating margin to 7.6 per cent. The company said that Mothercare had a strong first half, but that sales growth eased off in the second half, partly due to "some weakness in product range and availability".

Bhs, the group's biggest division, saw operating profits rise 11 per cent to £77.4 million on sales, excluding One Up, ahead 2 per cent at £742.7 million. The chain of 35 stores lifted operating margins from 9.2 per cent to 10.3 per cent.

In contrast to Mothercare, Bhs had a slow start to the year, with sales picking up during the second half. Blazer lifted operating profit by 37 per cent, to £400,000, on sales ahead 3 per cent at £14.8 million.

The final dividend was lifted from 3.6p to 4.2p, making a total for the year of 7.2p, up from 6.3p last time. The dividend, due August 8, is payable out of earnings of 17.8p a share, up from 14.8p last time. The shares fell 7p to 327p.

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Imro fines Adams & Nevile

By ROBERT MILLER

A SENIOR City watchdog yesterday fined a London-based private client fund manager more than a year's worth of profits for a number of serious rule breaches.

The Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (Imro), which polices fund managers, fined Adams & Nevile Asset Management £20,000 against a profit of £14,619 in 1994-95. In addition, the firm was ordered to pay compensation of £59,000 to 35 investors for losses incurred as a result of advice received from the company.

Imro found Adams & Nevile guilty of failing to take all reasonable steps to ensure that investors who bought shares in Laser understood the risks. The company subsequently failed.

Burford seeks £142m to buy property portfolio

By CARL MORTISHED

BURFORD, the property group which last November spun off the Trocadero as a quoted leisure company, is raising £142 million in a rights issue to shareholders. The new money will finance the purchase of a £70.8 million portfolio of properties from Shell Pensions Trust and provide funding for the development of a shopping and leisure complex on Finchley Road, North London.

Burford's rights issue comes after a cash call from Chelsfield on Tuesday, also targeted at investment in the capital. Chelsfield's £100 million rights is earmarked for its White City retail and leisure development in West London and both companies are tapping the stock market after the recent surge in property shares. Since the start of March, Burford's share price

has risen 38 per cent in value. The property company also announced a reverse takeover of Carnell, the USM-quoted publisher, in a £14 million deal involving the purchase by Carnell of Columbus Holdings for shares. Columbus, which publishes travel directories, including *The World Travel Guide*, is 50 per cent owned by Burford, which intends to distribute the Carnell stock to its shareholders as a dividend. Burford shareholders will end up with 43 per cent of Carnell, which is changing its name to Columbus and joining the Official List.

Burford will issue 119 million shares in rights on a two-for-five basis at 122p, a discount of 15 per cent from the price on Wednesday. Nick Leslau, chief executive of Burford, said the new funds would provide extra purchas-

ing power indicating that, after the share issue, the company could spend £362 million while remaining within a self-imposed gearing limit of 100 per cent. After the rights, net asset value, including the Carnell shares, will increase from 104.3p to 107.3p. Burford's gearing will fall from 56 to 23 per cent.

The Shell Pensions portfolio totals seven properties, including a shopping centre in Shrewsbury, a retail park and three freehold hotels, producing £4.9 million in rent. Mr Leslau said the income should increase to £6.9 million over the three years, increasing the yield 7 per cent to just under 10 per cent. The Finchley Road development is expected to cost £40 million with a completed value of £60 million.

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McDonald's signs ten-year promotion deal with Disney

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

WALT DISNEY, the entertainment company, and McDonald's, the hamburger chain, signed a ten-year marketing deal that combines two of the world's strongest brand names.

McDonald's will have the exclusive right to promote Disney films and videos in its 18,700 restaurants worldwide. The hamburger chain will also have the right to open new restaurants in Disney's theme parks in Florida and Paris, and will sponsor the

new Dinoland attraction at Disney World in Florida.

Michael Eisner, Disney's chairman, hailed the agreement as a "true Disney production". The promotions, which will reach 33 million customers worldwide who eat at McDonald's restaurants every day, are largely aimed at children who make up the core of McDonald's clientele.

The deal is a significant victory for McDonald's over rival Burger King in a long-

running battle to promote Disney films. Until now McDonald's relationship with Disney has been intermittent, covering a few films and more recently a McTrivia quiz game with questions based on Disney children's films.

Recently Burger King has won the promotional rights to blockbusters such as *Toy Story* and *The Lion King*. It is also promoting this summer's Disney release, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*.

Tempus, page 28

BNB to be hit by more defections

By CLARE STEWART

BNB Resources, the executive recruitment and training group, is facing a further defection of senior staff when it emerged yesterday that five headhunters may leave its New York subsidiary, Norman Broadbent International (NBI).

David Norman, executive chairman of BNB, told shareholders at yesterday's annual meeting that the five executives may have gone by the end of July. Sources in the United States confirmed that the staff would be leaving, and are contemplating legal action over non-payment of bonuses.

The problems in New York come soon after the departure of senior personnel in London. In February, Miles Broadbent,

former chief executive of NBI, "retired", while last month three directors of the financial services division quit.

On Tuesday, it was announced that Andrew Goodman, founder and chief executive of Goodman Graham, the IT recruitment company acquired by BNB last year, had left after a difference of opinion over its management. He is planning to sue BNB for unfair dismissal and breach of contract.

In his statement to shareholders, Mr Norman said NBI had been "managing purposefully" after the departure of its key personnel. Although both Mr Broadbent and the three directors of the financial services division had set up

their own recruitment agencies, Mr Norman said that all four will "continue to work in association with NBI for 12 months". This refers to a contractual requirement for the four men to pay 50 per cent of their earnings to NBI.

The acquisition cost of Goodman Graham will drop to £4.5 million, compared to the maximum stated of £7 million after the departure of Mr Goodman, as he will not be entitled to participate in the three-year earnout agreement, Mr Norman said. The first four months of this year showed "an encouraging advance" on the same period last year, he went on. "We remain very positive as to our prospects..."

THE TIMES
CITY DIARY

Business Age calls it a day

BUSINESS AGE, the financial monthly that upset the Queen over her estimated wealth, has been shut after failing to meet newsstand sales targets. At 10 o'clock yesterday morning, Peter Kirwan, the editor, heard that his baby had been put to bed for the last time, on the instruction of Ruud Bakker, VNU Business Publications managing director. The magazine was bought from Tom Rubythorn, now editor of *Sunday Business*, and his partner Nigel Jagger, for a reputed £3 million last summer. *Personal Computer Magazine*, another publication in VNU's 20-strong portfolio, has also been closed, to make way for a yet-to-be-named business PC magazine in September. Staff from both magazines have been offered jobs within the company.

Body politic

AFTER three decades of campaigning for social change, Anita Roddick has decided to include some spice in *The Body Shop's* annual report. The "Chairman's statement" on pages one to three, penned by T. Gordon Roddick, comes before the "Chairman's wife's statement" that covers a meagre half page. Nowhere does it say that the latter is the founder and chief executive of the cosmetics company. According to a spokesman: "Anita wanted to inject some humour into the report."



"That would be before England beat China 3-0"

Sooty's target

GORDON POWER, MD of Guinness Mahon Development Capital, the company that splashed out £1.4 million for Sooty yesterday, is said to have carried the deal on his shoulders. As the only family man at GMDC, Power was picked out to take his children to Sooty's Christmas show at the Bloomsbury Theatre last December. Until then, Power was a fan of Sooty's "clean" character. In the belief that the naughtiest thing that the bear had done was to squirt the Duke of Edinburgh with a water pistol. But when Sooty's former keeper Matthew Corbett recognised Power in the audience, he made Guinness Mahon the butt of his jokes.

Touch of class

SIR Michael Wilmut, owner of The Beaufort hotel in Knightsbridge, stole the show at a recent gala evening in Los Angeles, hosted by British hoteliers. When all around were in lounge suits, to the delight of American guests at the Bel Air hotel, Sir Michael arrived in white tie. Howard Malin, owner of The Feathers in Woodstock, feeling scruffy in comparison, bit back in his speech: "We've spared no expense, bringing our own baronet to act as a waiter for this evening."

IS THE London Stock Exchange preparing itself for the next big crash? At the bottom of a list of planning consents, "on delegated authority of the City Planning Officer" is one for the installation of a safety handrail to the roof perimeter of the Throgmorton Street building.

MORAG PRESTON

Power of the generators faces a new challenge

At issue is whether they hold too much sway over pricing, says

Christine Buckley

Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, is about to grapple again with the thorny issue of competition in generation. His attention has been forced on the subject by the threat from PowerGen, the country's second largest generator, that it might not sell the power stations it has been ordered to until it gets guidance on how the electricity industry can develop. The move follows the surprise government block on its takeover of a regional company, along with that of National Power.

Along with National Power, PowerGen is obliged under the regulator's orders to sell more power stations to encourage more competition in generation. The aim, particularly, is to spark further rivalry in the important price-setting area of the wholesale market for power, in which generators bid prices they want related to expected demand.

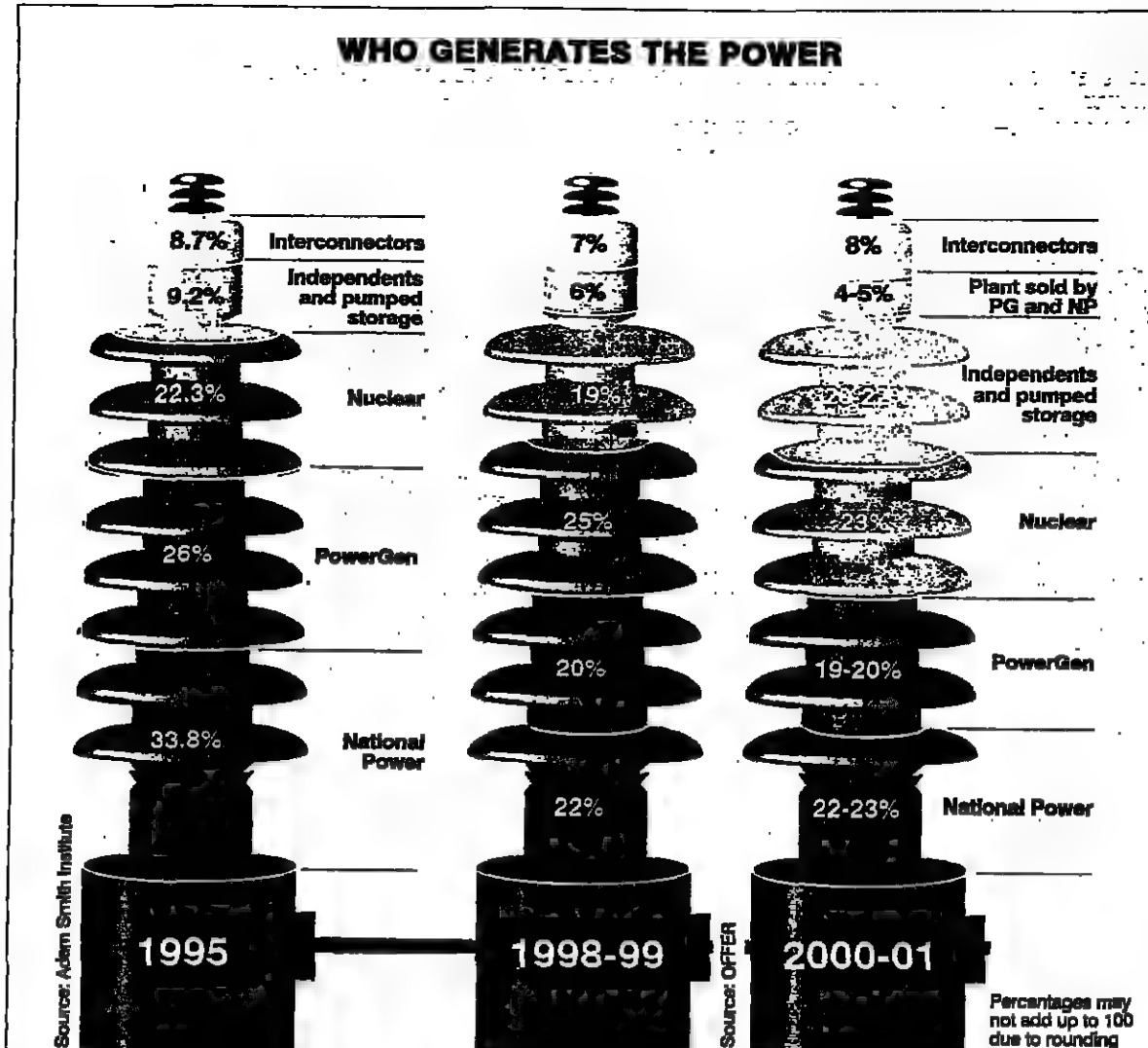
PowerGen is aggrieved that it has not been allowed to expand its business by taking over Midlands Electricity and wants clarification on the policy for development. It claims its market share of generation is dropping to such an extent that it should not be penalised on the grounds of too much market influence.

Others, including the electricity regulator and some regional electricity companies, do not agree. They argue that PowerGen and National Power, the largest generator, hold too much sway over power prices.

A report by BZW, the brokers, predicts that the price-setting part of generation is likely to be dominated by the two main players for some time to come. It predicts that in 1999 National Power will have 37 per cent of the capacity in the mid-merit market and PowerGen will have 33 per cent. Immediately after that the broker sees a slight dropping away as new plant come on-stream, but it still sees the two main players controlling 60 per cent of price-setting area.

The report also casts doubt on the view that prices are falling in line with increased competition. It says: "National Power and PowerGen have had a strong interest in promoting a pessimistic view of electricity prices in recent months for three reasons: to convince Oftec that the generating market really is competitive, requiring no regulation; to bolster the case for buying a regional electricity company; to discourage the building of further new generation plant."

The two main generators have about 85 per cent of the mid-merit area of the electricity pool, although their overall share stands at 57 per cent. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC), in its inquiries into the takeovers by National Power and PowerGen of Southern Electric and Midlands Electricity, made clear that the state of competition in generation was a fundamental consideration. It did not, however, conduct any research into future market shares, relying instead on the projections of the two generators, the National Grid and the Office of Electricity Regulation. A spokesman for the MMC said that it had not had the time to undertake independent research. Professor



Littlechild has recently hinted to analysts that he may consider forcing the generators to get rid of more power stations than he initially planned. In a rare briefing to the City, he indicated that competition may be given a further helping hand.

The political temperature over competition in generation has also been raised. The surprise takeover veto and golden share endorsement by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, came after growing unrest over the issue from Tory backbenchers such as John Redwood and Norman Lamont.

Fears for the stimulation of competition in generation have been further

Such constraint would seem inevitable. Eastern will begin with a cost handicap when it enters the bidding in the wholesale market. It will be forced to factor this into the price it asks for its electricity or suffer commercial loss. Undercutting the prices of the two main generators in the important price-setting region of the wholesale market is, therefore, far less likely.

A National Power spokesman said that the earn-out deals, which require a lower up-front payment than an outright sale, encouraged the buyer to bid competitively in mid-merit. He said: "Under different arrangements Eastern would have been expected to operate in the base-load section where competition is less of an issue."

Base-load pays lower prices for electricity but guarantees that output will be taken, whereas mid-merit doesn't. The chief executive of one independent regional electricity company said: "The proposed solution does not end the competition that state has not yet been reached. So, too, has the Department of Trade and Industry, albeit with hopelessly vague definitions of an adequately competitive market."

The deals between the generators and Eastern that will introduce the third major player into the mid-merit market have puzzled some energy economists. Breaking down published figures, it has paid about £360 per kilowatt hour for the National Power plant and about £200 per kilowatt hour for the PowerGen plant. A new combined cycle gas turbine plant with a life of at least 25 years would cost about £450 per kilowatt hour, according to market estimates. National Power's plant is thought to have a life remaining of about 10-15 years, while

The electricity regulator has made clear his keenness for competition in generation

up achieving the regulation set out in bringing competition into the critically important mid-merit market."

This continued market interest was not what the regulator originally wanted to see. He had told the generators he wanted to see a clean sale, but then agreed to earn-out clauses up to 2003 with agreed payments for each megawatt hour produced. He stated that the earn-outs should not "constrain the commercial freedom of the new owner to choose when and how to operate."

Flaw in stress at work litigation trend

From Dr Peter Noble
Sir, Your correspondent Ben Apfel (Business Letters, May 16) writing on the prospect of a "flood of litigation" by employees for nervous breakdown induced by stress at work, makes the important point that employers are only likely to be held responsible for the second, or subsequent, breakdown.

To be actionable the consequences of the work stress need to be "foreseeable". Psychiatric disorder is often recurrent and thus a first episode can be interpreted as making subsequent episodes "foreseeable". This logic will have adverse social consequences. It must make employers more reluctant both to take an applicant with a known history of previous disorder and to retain an existing employee who develops a "first" episode. It will exacerbate the already severe difficulties that such people have in finding and keeping employment. It will increase the stigma and the stress which confronts the patient.

Not all forms of mental disorder recur. Some robust individuals may be denied employment because they are deemed to constitute a theoretical liability. The numbers at risk are large — about 10 per cent of the population suffer at some stage from anxiety or depression, which are often stress-related.

This new trend to litigation may compensate some expectations but the main losers, apart from employers, will be ordinary ex-patients who, having suffered a nervous breakdown, will now face even more disadvantage and discrimination at work. It is unfortunate the scope of compensation can be widened by individual case decisions, which are taken without any discussion of the potential social consequences and damage to the employment prospects of ex-psychiatric patients. Yours faithfully, PETER NOBLE, MD FRCP and FRC Psych, Emeritus consultant, Beilby Royal Hospital and The Maudsley Hospital, London, SE5.

Is this CBI policy?

ly, he argues for a new ministry that would cover health and safety matters, employment and training, pensions, equal opportunities, maternity pay, parental leave, and works councils. This [approach] corresponds almost exactly to Germany's *Arbeitsministerium*

under its long-serving Labour Minister, Norbert Blum. Mr Gilbert's views are interesting and important and I find myself in agreement with him. But do they represent new CBI policy? Perhaps the President of the CBI could write to you and let us know. Yours faithfully, DENIS MACSHANE, MP, House of Commons, SW1.

Opt-out from European Social Chapter untenable

From the General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress
Sir, I was very glad to read Robbie Gilbert's call to the Government to end Britain's opt-out from the European Social Chapter (Time to rejoin social policy debate, May 22).

It is pleasing that his opinion, as an adviser to the CBI, now coincides precisely with the view the TUC has pressed since the signing of the Maastricht treaty, namely that the opt-out is untenable — instruments adopted by the 14 other

EU countries do come to influence the position in the UK — and that the British Government, by excluding itself from the discussions, has left the field open to others to draft the legislation.

To use his own phrase, John Major must be living in "cloud-cuckoo land" when he maintains that this opt-out, as well as the much-vaunted self-exclusion from EMU, can be sustained for much longer while the internal European market is integrating at some

speed. The only result will be that we shall sign up eventually to rules we did not influence, as happened with the common agricultural policy.

As Robbie Gilbert argues, it is high time that Britain fully joins the club. Only then shall we be in a position to promote our national interests. Yours sincerely, JOHN MONKS, General Secretary, TUC, Congress House, Great Russell Street, WC1.

Insider dealing laws in need of a re-draft

From Adrian FitzGerald
Sir, I read with interest your article (Corporate Britain caught in profit warning paradox, May 22), which examined reasons for the recent spate of profit warnings.

Martin Waller is right to attribute the current phenomenon at least in part to the tightening of the processes by which information is released to the stock market. However, he is wrong to conclude that the problem is one of "over-reporting". If anything, it is one of under-reporting. Certainly, official announcements via Stock Exchange channels have largely replaced the unofficial massaging of market expectations, a direct result of the new insider dealing legislation and reinforced guidance by the Exchange on the dissemination of price-sensitive information.

Whilst this trend has arguably created a fairer market for all participants, there is growing evidence that it has created a much less efficient market, in the sense that shares can remain mis-priced for lengthy periods. Sharp reactions to official profit warnings can quickly correct such mis-pricings, but this is of no comfort to buyers at prices some 20-30 per cent higher just days before.

The answer is that if companies are obliged to manipulate expectations through official channels, then announcements, or bulletins, must become more frequent. The market and its participants will just have to learn to cope with the resultant deluge of information. Given the present interpretation of insider dealing legislation, this is the only way that investors can be sure that current share prices reflect known trading performances. Of course, the sensible thing

would be to re-draft the legislation. The new insider dealing laws from April 1994 are open to too many interpretations and, as a result, have had a disastrous effect on communications between the corporate sector and the City. The gross stock market inefficiency that has resulted is too heavy a price to pay for just two insider dealing prosecutions in the last two years. Yours faithfully, ADRIAN FITZGERALD, Pomphrey Farmhouse, Penicuik, Midlothian.

From Denis MacShane, MP
Sir, Robbie Gilbert, the CBI's employment adviser, writes that "The Government should offer to end the opt-out" of the European Social Chapter (May 22). He also suggests that London could make common cause with Sweden and Ireland, two countries where trade union relationships with Government are strong. Final-

Casualties rife in bank's quest for efficiency

Patricia Tehan on the tasks facing the man restructuring Lloyds TSB

Peter Ellwood, the new deputy chief executive of Lloyds TSB, faces two unenviable tasks. The first is to put together the retail banking and financial services operations of two of the biggest banks in the country after their merger last December.

The second brings with it far more pain. After a Private Bill is approved by Parliament, probably some time next year, he must oversee the dramatic reduction of the combined banking group's 3,000-strong branch network accompanied by the loss of thousands of the combined bank's 40,000 jobs.

Mr Ellwood is seen by analysts as bringing a flood of new ideas to Lloyds. Under Sir Brian Pitman, chief executive, the bank has managed its grand strategy more effectively than most of its rivals but it has been behind most — particularly TSB — in its thinking on customer service, product development, information technology and management development. Mr Ellwood

reporting on the work undertaken by a series of task forces and process teams. Mr Ellwood said the obvious place to start was the strategy — "to be a leading player in every one of our chosen markets". Then the integration team went on to ask what would make the merged bank "better, different from the competition", bearing in mind that "the strategic goal is increasing shareholder value".

In order to achieve this, he added, the bank has attempted to analyse "what customers really want" and found that it is "excellence of service". For Lloyds TSB this means three things: "Highly competent staff, giving people the ability to do business where and when they want to; and making customers feel they are being cared for."

Mr Ellwood said a new customer-focused structure put in place in April, organising the business by product, "is different from what Lloyds had, different to what TSB had". The most important decision, said Mr Ellwood, was to close TSB's former retail banking administration centre in Birmingham and to concentrate activities in Bristol.

TSB appointments in the top two layers of management is running at 50/50 in retail financial services, though the group support positions such as legal adviser and company secretary have all gone to Lloyds Bank executives. At the end of this month, the third management tier will be put in place — making 172 positions altogether.

Mr Ellwood said he was surprised by the similarity in culture between the two organisations. Lloyds has a far more up-market image than TSB and a much bigger base of corporate customers. But outsiders say the cultures of the two are quite different and it can only be a matter of time before a clash becomes an issue.

Lloyds TSB is using integration methods formulated by Boston Consulting to push the two banks together. This means an integration committee of six, chaired by Mr Ellwood, taking all major decisions on integration and running the business. A co-ordination team of ten reports to the top committee, where Lloyds retail financial services operation is based. This move will involve the loss of 500 jobs.

"You cannot shy away from difficult decisions; staff expect you to take them," said Mr Ellwood. "But they understand the logic that we do not need two administration centres."

The big issue, yet to be addressed by the bank, is what happens to the branch network. The bank cannot push the two branch networks together until a Private Bill is passed by Parliament next year which means, said Mr Ellwood, "that the momentum of the business, the dialogue with the customer, all goes on without being affected by the merger".

But despite the best efforts of Lloyds TSB to downplay the issue, it will push the bank through a great deal of pain and controversy next year and the effect on staff — and the excellence of service Mr Ellwood is seeking — should not be underestimated.

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The headlines

Cable & Wireless alliance with VEBA creates major force in Europe

New look Mercury back on growth track

Installation of the world's longest submarine cable is underway

Over 1,000 multinational customers choose Cable & Wireless

HONGKONG TELECOM LAUNCHES UNIQUE LOCAL INTERNET SERVICE

NTT link launches new mobile technology in Japan

Partnerships in Singapore, Indonesia and Taiwan strengthen Asia presence

Fibre-optic cable signals new era for Caribbean telecoms

The bottom line

Cable and Wireless plc recorded another year of strong growth across its global business in the year ended March 1996.

Pre-tax profit and earnings per share, excluding exceptional items, rose by 10% and 12% respectively. Dividend for the year increased by 10.5%.

The Cable & Wireless Group is active in over 50 countries and provides international, domestic and mobile communications for residential and business users.

With clear regional focus on Europe, Asia and the US/Caribbean, the Group holds a strong position in some of the world's most rapidly-growing telecommunications markets.

And with an excellent track record of improving services, harnessing new technologies and building long-term partnerships with governments, businesses and customers around the world, Cable & Wireless faces the future with confidence.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS, YEAR TO 31 MARCH 1996

	1996	1995	% growth
Turnover	£5,517m	£5,133m	+7%
Operating profit	£1,311m	£1,134m	+16%
Pre-tax profit	£1,341m	£844m	+59%
Pre-tax profit excluding exceptional items	£1,262m	£1,144m	+10%
Earnings per share	27.5p	11.5p	+139%
Earnings per share excluding exceptional items	26.4p	23.6p	+12%
Dividend for the year	10.00p	9.05p	+10%

Final dividend of 6.92p is payable on 2 September 1996 to Shareholders on the Register at 11 June 1996. If you have any queries as a Cable & Wireless Shareholder, please call us on 0171 315 4455. Copies of the Annual Report & Accounts will be posted to Shareholders on 3 June 1996. Internet web site number: <http://cwix.com/cwplc/>



CABLE & WIRELESS

Equities extend their losses

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High Low Company Price % Change

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Company	Price	% Change
AB InBev	24.50	+0.25
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

BANKS

Company	Price	% Change
Bank of China	1.10	+0.01
Bank of India	1.10	+0.01
Bank of Japan	1.10	+0.01
Bank of Korea	1.10	+0.01
Bank of London	1.10	+0.01
Bank of Montreal	1.10	+0.01
Bank of New York	1.10	+0.01
Bank of Paris	1.10	+0.01
Bank of Singapore	1.10	+0.01
Bank of South Africa	1.10	+0.01
Bank of Taiwan	1.10	+0.01
Bank of Thailand	1.10	+0.01
Bank of Vietnam	1.10	+0.01
Bank of West	1.10	+0.01
Bank of World	1.10	+0.01
Bank of Yugoslavia	1.10	+0.01
Bank of Zambia	1.10	+0.01
Bank of Zimbabwe	1.10	+0.01

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

ENGINEERING VEHICLES

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

ELECTRICITY

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

BREWING & CONSTRUCT

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

BUILDING MATERIALS

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

ENGINEERING

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

CHEMICALS

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

DISTRIBUTORS

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

SHORTS (under 5 years)

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

LONGS (over 15 years)

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

UNDATED

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

INDEX-LINKED

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

PHARMACEUTICALS

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

SUPPORT SERVICES

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

PRINTING & PAPER

Company	Price	% Change
Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
Daewoo	1.10	+0.01
Heineken	1.10	+0.01
Kaiser	1.10	+0.01
Kirin	1.10	+0.01
Miller	1.10	+0.01
Nikkol	1.10	+0.01
Orion	1.10	+0.01
Sabeco	1.10	+0.01
Schlitz	1.10	+0.01
Tiger	1.10	+0.01
Yokohama	1.10	+0.01

PROPERTY

Asahi	1.10	+0.01	Asahi	1.10	+0.01	Asahi	1.10	+0.01	Asahi	1.10	+0.01
Beck's	1.10	+0.01	Beck's	1.10	+0.01	Beck's	1.10	+0.01	Beck's	1.10	+0.01
Brewery	1.10	+0.01	Brewery	1.10	+0.01	Brewery	1.10	+0.01	Brewery	1.10	+0.01
Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01	Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01	Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01	Carlsberg	1.10	+0.01
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■ OPERA
David Leveaux, Harold Pinter's favourite director, turns his theatrical talents on a new *Salome* for ENO



■ THEATRE 1
The prolific playwright Peter Whelan scores again with *The Herbal Bed*, his latest for the RSC

THE TIMES ARTS



■ THEATRE 2
Russia's dazzling Maly Drama brings a not-to-be-missed production to Nottingham



■ CONCERT
Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Stockholm Chamber Orchestra bring inspired music-making to the Barbican

OPERA: Andy Lavender talks to director David Leveaux about *Salome*, sex and keeping a low profile

Invisible man lifts the veil

Somebody once said to me, "How many times are you going to be rediscovered?" David Leveaux recalls. Leveaux is 38 years old and (if you have not yet discovered him) is a theatre and opera director. He first came to notice at the age of 24 with an award-winning production of Eugene O'Neill's *A Moon for the Misbegotten* in London. He was invited to direct the play for the American Repertory Theatre, the new production transferred to Broadway and further awards followed. Since then he has dipped in and out of the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company, London's West End and prestigious theatres in countries as far apart as America, Turkey and Japan.

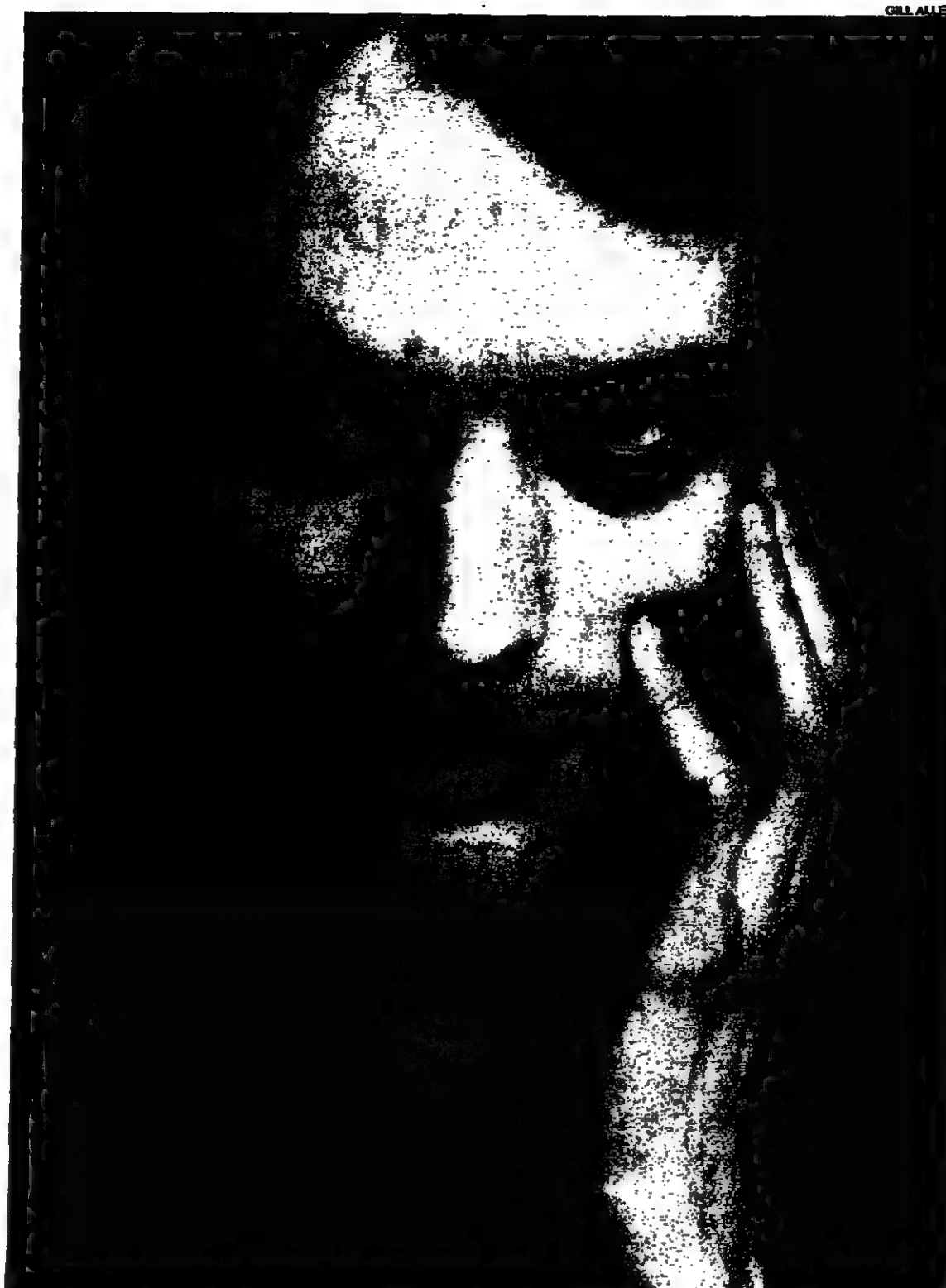
He is Britain's Pimpernel director, one minute lost to view, the next popping up somewhere in the world with a rather fine production. Was he most recently rediscovered a couple of years ago, when he directed Harold Pinter's *No Man's Land* at the Almeida, in a production starring the playwright himself and Paul Eddington? That show, with the most subtle nuances of pace and tone, transferred to the Comedy Theatre. Or was it when he received a Tony Award nomination for best direction for his New York production of O'Neill's *Anna Christie*, starring Liam Neeson and Natasha Richardson? Or when Pinter entrusted him with his most recent play, *Moonlight*, which made the familiar journey from Islington to the West End?

In any event, Leveaux seems to have combined a glittering career with a low profile. He might have to brace himself for being rediscovered all over again, however, for he is currently putting the finishing touches to his first production for English National Opera — Richard Strauss's version of Oscar Wilde's *Salome*.

The invitation to direct the opera came, he says, after his production of *The Turn of the Screw* for Scottish Opera. "It was a very odd, pathological production," he recalls. "I think that was probably what ENO had in mind. They knew that if I was to direct *Salome* it wouldn't involve some kind of biblical epic." Leveaux insists that he is not a "concept" director, fixing the production even before he has met the performers in the rehearsal room. "If I do have a style," he says after some thought, "it's to do with trying to locate the unconscious pulses that cause a scene to move in a certain way, and bring those to the surface." What better approach could there be for *Salome*, given the text's cocktail of eroticism and violence? The story is familiar: John the Baptist has been imprisoned in the palace of Herod. When the Tetrarch begs his stepdaughter, Salome, to dance for him, she agrees, on condition that he deliver to her the head of the fascinating but disquieting prophet. So much for the plot. The unconscious pulses racing beneath it are to do with pederastic desire, sexual awakening, beauty, blasphemy and apocalypse. One critic rather sniffily described the play as "decadent purple, a symbolist extravaganza". But what purple, Wilde might have observed.

Some kinds of decadence don't seem resonant any more

"In the Wildean sense you can understand the play as being a philosophical and erotic investigation of the pursuit of beauty and the pursuit of love," says Leveaux. "It's homosexual literature. But Strauss, why did he approach this story? I guess that, like Wilde, he was asking, 'What is the nature of innocence? What is the nature of sin?'" Strauss has transferred it to opera with staggering fidelity, and then taken it further. You don't feel that this is a play that has somehow been diminished by the addition of music. Wilde's play was produced in Paris in 1896, although it was banned in this country and only received its first public performance here in 1929. Strauss's opera was written in 1905. The piece does have a turn-of-the-century flavour. It is also, Leveaux suggests, appropriate to our own *fin de siècle* — not in any forced sense of "relevance", but in its psychological undercurrents. "It's a kind of neurotic piece," he says. "We're living in



The Pimpernel of British theatre, David Leveaux: "I don't have some cultish desire to be utterly secret"

neurotic times, where the desire for redemption is so potent that a story about a young woman whom we desire and yet who does something absolutely unforgivable is very concrete." The designer, Leveaux's longstanding collaborator Vicki Mortimer, has provided "a black wall standing in black space". The set indicates Leveaux's stripped-down approach. "Some kinds of sensual decadence don't seem to me to be particularly resonant any more," he says. "One just wants to look at what actually

happens in the opera — so we've removed at least six of the seven veils, as it were. We don't have a Dance of the Seven Veils." Leveaux declines to describe what Kristine Ciesinski, who plays Salome, will present instead, being content to observe that, "once you get to some kind of human nakedness, that's when revelation begins now". Phrases like this indicate Leveaux's confidence. For the past three years he has been artistic director of Theatre Project Tokyo, a company he formed in order to mingle Eastern

and Western theatre experiences more extensively than is usually the case when a West End director jets off to Japan. This means spending up to five months a year directing three productions in Tokyo. Now that TPT has established itself, he is contemplating a return of sorts to Europe. "I don't have some cultish desire to be utterly secret," he says. Not that Leveaux needs redemptive cover all over again. Just noticing a little more frequently. ● *Salome* opens tomorrow at the Coliseum (0171-632 8300)

Painting by French numbers

TUESDAY night's offering from the Philharmonia in the "Après l'Après-midi" series featured three masterpieces but juxtaposed them with two other intriguing scores that filled out the picture of 20th-century French composition. The early evening concert was devoted to the world premiere of *Sigrancia Ballade* by Betsy Jolas.

Jolas was born in France, and, as pupil and subsequently colleague of Messiaen, is a significant figure in the musical establishment. The work was introduced in a platform discussion between Jolas and John Amis, but not a lot was given away. Nor was Jolas willing to give much help with the text, which was impenetrable as only the French know how. The verb "marcher" loomed large and a walking motif stalked the work. David Wilson-Johnson delivered the text with characteristic brio, but the task of communication was an uphill one.

Rather more engaging was Henri Dutilleul's *Timbres, espace, mouvement*, which deploys an unusual orchestral layout to superb effect. Violins and violas are absent, which paradoxically draws attention to treble-range parts (provided by wind and brass), separated as they are from the well-defined bass lines (12 cellos,

Philharmonia/
Tortelier
Festival Hall

who have an interlude to themselves). That special sense is the "espace" of the title, while the "mouvement" refers to the wind and brass textures that conjure the whirling, turbulent night sky of Van Gogh's *La nuit étoilée* (The Starry Night), the work's subtitle.

If this was far more than tone painting, so too was Yan Pascal Tortelier's reading of Debussy's *La mer*. He lost no time in whipping up the stormy winds of the last movement, yet the vividness of the drama seemed to betoken an agitated psychological state rather than mere pictorialism.

Similarly dramatic — almost operatic — was Tortelier's exhilarating account of the second suite from Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloé*, with full-blooded contributions from the Philharmonia Chorus. Ravel's Piano Concerto in D for the left hand was also given an extrovert performance, with Jean-Philippe Collard a demonstrative soloist.

BARRY MILLINGTON

An inspired hand

THE fluent clarity that Esa-Pekka Salonen brings to the most complex of works makes his reputation as an excellent conductor of difficult music easy to understand. But it was reassuring to hear the same qualities in his performances of standard repertoire at the Barbican on Tuesday: he gave freshly-inspiring accounts of works by Prokofiev, Beethoven and Strauss.

Salonen was visiting with "his" Stockholm Chamber Orchestra — he is artistic director — and their rapport paid dividends. Prokofiev's *Classical Symphony* revealed the orchestra's sound, which is based on warm, resonant strings and characterful winds. The group functions — like Scandinavian furniture — with efficiency and style. But the players did not lack humour in the Gavotte, or the infectious high spirits called for in the whirling Finale.

A modest-sized orchestra

Stockholm CO/
Salonen
Barbican

like this is ideally suited to Beethoven's early Piano Concerto No 2, and in the finale its players were easily able to match the spiky dance rhythms of Yefim Bronfman at the keyboard. He proved an invigorating soloist, by turns poetic and powerful.

In Strauss's *Metamorphosen* for 23 solo strings, no star stood out, which helped to preserve the sense of this being a multilayered chamber work. Salonen shaped Strauss's 1945 dirge for a lost Munich with spiritual intensity. Grief and anger turned to resignation as the spring at the work's centre was released with unforged naturalness.

JOHN ALLISON

THEATRE: Shakespeare's daughter defends her name in Peter Whelan's latest; plus, insight into the Russian soul

Suit of her honour

The Herbal Bed
The Other Place,
Stratford

The trickiest task falls to Teresa Banham (Susanna), who must present respect for her husband and (mostly) frustrated love for Rafe, while at the same time show that she

is essentially good. Banham gives reality to Whelan's portrait of a complex, immorally moral being.

Susanna endures anxiety; others suffer pain. Liam Cunningham's Dr Hall, wrenching his attention from the sickness outside his house to that within; Joseph Fiennes's Rafe, choking in the turbulence of desire and religious belief. Further from the centre are David Tennant, the confused rakehell, and Jay McInnes's equivocating servant, Hester. Stephen Boxer's Puritan inquisitor thrillingly racks the tension in the courtroom scene. Will Shakespeare is just about to make his entrance, dying, when the play ends.

JEREMY KINGSTON

A loose grasp on reality

Claustrophobia
Nottingham
Playhouse

white room. The whole thing may be inside your head yet we have also been transported, quite specifically, to Room No 319 in the old Theatre Academy in St Petersburg.

The room has been completely whitewashed, but not recently. While institutionally stark, it retains, or has acquired, quiet grace: its high walls tapering away towards far doors, a few radiator pipes,

a practice bar where a ballet class warms up.

Room 319 is where the young students of the Maly Drama Theatre School are taught to act, improvise, create new worlds.

Dodin's young actors and actresses take on a mass of characters. They might be inmates in a detention camp, the homeless seeking shelter in a church, institutionalised lunatics, army officers, or former drama students simply wandering into an old dance studio.

The company portrays people in flux, caught between — or escaping into — the past and the future. These people come under different influences: capitalist, communist, Christian, neat spirits, high spirits. They confuse hard facts and fictions, enjoy new freedoms but also crave the old dictated securities.

At once vastly imaginative and masterfully controlled, Dodin's cast seamlessly merges dramatic dialogue with modern ballet or a burst of jazz. A disillusioned down-and-out's speech slides into a monotonous aria; folk chanting changes into the chugging of a train packed with Soviet recruits or perhaps social rebels. Apart from the significance of the odd scene being hard to decode, not helped by the split focus of surtitles, this piece is richly suggestive and powerfully absorbing. The ensemble playing is superb, the emotional intensity strong.

KATE BASSETT

● *Claustrophobia*, hosted by a small consortium of theatres and supported by Barclays Stage Partners and the Arts Council of England, among others, tours to Glasgow's Tron Theatre and the Lyric, Hammersmith

DEGAS BEYOND IMPRESSIONISM — DAY THREE

Richard Cork selects highlights from the National Gallery exhibition

Degas commenced this picture by reworking an earlier canvas, obliterating the dancer who once filled the centre of the composition. The figures have been pushed to the sides, leaving the floor surprisingly empty. Light spreads across it from a distant window, but the rehearsal room remains dim. The four ballerinas, poised at the upper edge are blurred, their limbs brushed in loosely by a painter no longer concerned with meticulous detail.

The older he grew, the more Degas simplified his technique. He aimed at conveying the essence of a scene, and the four figures are defined with the utmost economy. The sprightliness of their upturned legs is contrasted with the languor of the two dancers in the



"A tender poetry": Before the ballet, c.1890-92. National Gallery of Art, Washington

foreground. Weary after rehearsing, they rest and attend to their own bodies. Degas catches them off-guard, absorbed in their own activities. He makes no attempt to romanticise their hard-working lives. But their

surroundings are reduced to a hazy veil of colour, applied with fingers as much as brushes. The sensuousness of his mark-making, combined with the soft colours he favours throughout the

painting, give it a subdued, tender poetry.

● *Degas: Beyond Impressionism* is at the National Gallery until Aug 26 (tickets from First Call, 0171-420 0000). ● *Monday: Combining the hair* (c. 1896-1900)

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POP 1

Violent images and a shuffling hip-hop beat in *Return of the Real*, the latest release by gangsta rapper Ice T



POP 2

After the runaway success of her recent single, it's only business as usual for Gabrielle on her new album

THE TIMES ARTS



POP 3

Peter Perrett, the man whose songs evoke seedy glamour and strange agonies, is back with a new group



POP 4

Sinéad O'Connor joins Bono and Christy Moore on *Common Ground*, a collection of Irish songs

Something really nasty in the T

NEW RELEASES: David Sinclair on albums by Ice T and Peter Perrett, and a slice of single cheese from Mike Flowers

ICE T
Return of the Real
(Priority/Rhyme Syndicate/Virgin 7243 8 41700)
OF ALL the gangsta rap acts, Ice T has made the greatest impression on the British mainstream. As author, actor and presenter of *Badass TV* (which returns to Channel 4 tonight), he has become an articulate figurehead for an American strand of black consciousness that many people find distasteful at best.

For while the fictional representation of violence in literature and film is part of an established tradition, the use of music as a vehicle for such purposes still strikes a disturbing chord. On *Pimp Anthem*, for instance, the frequently repeated refrain of "Bitches get my money before you get dropped" is accompanied by a woman's scream and the sound of a fist hitting a face. The effect of the imagery is all the more chilling for the casual way in which it is linked to a shuffling hip-hop beat. The off-repeated message that these ugly tales of life in South Central LA are an accurate reflection of reality — a point rammed home on the title track — is, frankly, not reassuring.

That said, there is an undeniable poetic fluency to Ice T's grim rhymes, especially the autobiographical *I Must Stand* and, along with the everyday street sounds of squealing tyres and gunshots, the album is

distinguished by some supremely taut beats and bass loops.

And if you look for it, *Return of the Real* is also leavened by a thin thread of black humour. Complaining with customary delicacy about the artistic interference which rap acts apparently endure from the "Jewish mother" who runs their record companies, Ice comments: "Their s--- way off course/It's like me telling Johnny Cash how to sing about his horse."

Sadly not. For, although this is another carefully crafted selection of conventional pop-soul songs with a light, upmarket sheen, the album is completely overshadowed by the grainy, pseudo-Stax production and inspired horn arrangement of that one typical gem.

Otherwise, it is business as usual. The south London singer boasts a pleasing range of vocal tones, from meek and kittenish on *I Live in Hope*, to tough and husky on *If You Really Cared*. But she confines herself to the one subject — affairs of the heart — with lyrics that tread familiar ground.

There are one or two good tunes, notably *There She Goes*, a song that would not have sounded out of place on the most recent Lloyd Cole album, but there is a disappointing lack of substance overall.

PETER PERRETT

IN THE ONE
Wake Up Sticky
(Demon F1END 773)
HAVING languished in dark places since the demise of the Only Ones in 1981, the wraith-like figure of Peter Perrett returns at the helm of a new group which he has halfheartedly christened the One.

A vampiric personality, touched with a fragile and largely unrecognised genius, Perrett continues to write songs that evoke unsettling images of seedy glamour and hint at strange internal agonies. "Nodding" out, while light/shadowy figures approach with the night," he sings in his feverish, southern English croak on the poignant title track.

The album is very much cast in the image of the Only Ones and, as in the past, the musical setting often sounds a little too strait-laced to accommodate Perrett's otherworldly persona. But it is good to have him back, and his version of the old Ray Davies song *I'm Not Like Everybody Else* is spot on.

VARIOUS ARTISTS

Common Ground
(EMI Premier 8 37691)
FROM the inanities of the Eurovision Song Contest to the serious barometer of the *Billboard* World Music chart, where seven of this week's Top Ten albums are by Celtic acts, there is no escape, these days, from the pervasive legacy of the Irish musical tradition.

Throwing his hat into this already crowded ring, producer and multi-instrumentalist Donal Lunney has assembled an all-star cast of Irish and Irish-related acts,



Speaking the unspeakable: Ice T explores some of the uglier aspects of LA life on *Return of the Real*

Wide awake Wener

A YEAR ago, Sleeper were enjoying the thrill of their first hit and launching a debut album that was to sell 150,000 copies. The band's singer and songwriter, Louise Wener, was being feted by the pop papers, where her sharp-witted comments filled their pages and her wide-eyed look adorned their covers. Now, with their new record, *The It Girl*, Sleeper are receiving a more muted reception.

Sleeper have changed. It is true, but not necessarily for the worse. Boisterous enthusiasm and rudimentary resources have made way for a more sophisticated style. Keyboards and an additional guitarist flesh out the sound of the original four-piece. There is now a

Sleeper
UEA, Norwich

light show, where before there were just lights.

The songs, too, are part of the makeover. The infectious bounce of *Inbetweeners* is more sedate; the ribald *Delicious* seems more restrained. The new songs, meanwhile, show off their clever arrangements. *Shrinkwrapped* veers between gear-grinding guitar sounds and a gentle lilt; *Good Luck Mr Gorsky* drifts dreamily.

But the show still belongs to Wener. She patrols the middle of the stage; guitarist Jon Stewart and bassist Diid Osman stand quietly to the side. She exudes a quiet confidence as she refuses either pure pop irony or raw rock passion. It is a stance that recalls Debbie Harry, but it is a pity that Wener's voice sounds strained. She should treat herself to a backing singer.

Sleeper may never rediscover the heady days of their debut, but British pop is not so overendowed that it can ignore someone who writes "lines about 'Dostoevsky's household tips' and then introduces the song by saying, 'This one is about knickers'."

JOHN STREET

TOP TEN R&B ALBUMS

- 1 The Score...Fugees (Columbia)
- 2 Boyz of Swing...Various Artists (Polygram TV)
- 3 Swing Mix '96...Various Artists (Telstar)
- 4 Vybinn...Various Artists (Global Television)
- 5 Ocean Drive...Lighthouse Family (Wild Card)
- 6 Return of the Mack...Mark Morrison (WEA)
- 7 Words...Tony Rich Project (LaFace)
- 8 HiStory...Michael Jackson (Epic)
- 9 The Best Rap Album in the World...Various Artists (Virgin)
- 10 New Beginning...SWV (RCA)

© CN

Young, gifted and slack

There are very few things in this world more exciting than a genuine Rock Moment — records and performances by bands that are saved from being acts of sheer insanity by the cathartic coolness of the act.

I remember the Manic Street Preachers on stage two months before Richey disappeared, noses bleeding from feedback, holding their guitars and eyeing up their amps... 20 minutes later £8,000 of debris littered the Astoria.

There are others: "Jane's Addiction's first album — it was 1990, everyone thought rock was dead. First four bars and it lived again. It was as simple as that. And *Primal Scream* at Glastonbury in 1992, just after *Screamadelica*

There are nice, safe, rock and pop bands. And then there is Pusherman

came out, doing *Step Inside This House*. The intro's got a whistle in it — I was just standing in a field, in the dark, listening to 60,000 people whistling. The girl next to me fainted — she said later on that she got so excited thinking about how great the rest of the song was going to sound that her brain overheated."

And Pusherman's first gig. "We hired a warehouse, and charged everyone £3 to get in.



CAITLIN MORAN

We invited everyone we knew, told them to invite anyone they knew, and went up to complete strangers in pubs and clubs and invited them too. We thought we'd break even if 250 people turned up. We had a thousand. A great Rock Moment."

We are sitting in a bar in King's Cross with Martin and Yank from Pusherman, discussing great Rock Moments because Pusherman's third single,

Chase It, is one of them. Without even the courtesy of a "One, two, three, four" count-in, *Chase It* crashes straight in with a scuffling, bluesy riff that out-Zepplins Led Zeppelin, carries on at full tilt into the most monstrously hedonistic chart-bound song since Happy Mondays' *Wrote For Luck*, and finishes in a thrilling finale of harmonies and sheer noise that brings to mind the sound of two cold, dead planets colliding while drunk.

"In order to write music that makes people want to have a good time, you have to be having a good time yourself, to experiment with different moods," Yank grins. "We thought we'd try recording naked, or in drag, on the floor. When we finished a track, we would set the speakers up outside, turn the volume up loud and roll around naked, screaming. Well, they all did that," he adds. "I thought it was a bit cold."

"They had the police out looking for him," Martin counters, gesturing at Yank. "When we recorded in Cornwall, Yank went wandering off to find a chip shop. Five hours later we realised he still hadn't come back, so we called out the police, had a helicopter and sniffer-dogs situation going on until dawn, whereupon Yank turned up with a head wound and no memory."

"I'm being more sensible at the moment," Yank says, pointing to his mineral water.

So, with all these rock shenanigans going on, aren't Pusherman's parents horrified by their lifestyle? "Oh no," Martin says. "My dad's an actor — he's been in *The Bill* and, um — I dunno what else. He keeps really quiet, we never know what he does. You'll be sitting there watching *Casualty* and suddenly go, 'Wow, that mangled, bleeding leg — it's my dad's!'"

"He thinks the band's great. He rang up yesterday and said: 'I went to HMV in Hampstead, and they don't have a copy of the single, but then I went to Rhythm Records and asked for it and they instantly said 'CD or vinyl?' 'He's saved us a fortune in market research.'"

● The single, *Chase It*, is out now on Ignition Records

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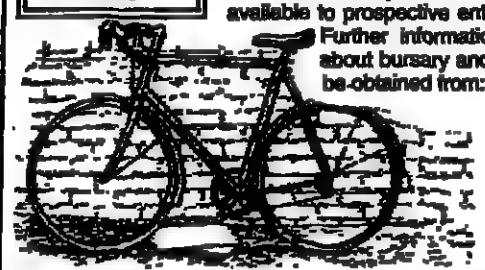
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POSTS



COUNCIL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Voluntary Governors

The University of Leeds is seeking to make a small number of new appointments to its Council. The vacancies are for 'lay members' (people who are neither employees nor students of the University). Such members are not paid.

The Council (which meets six times a year) is the executive governing body of the University. As such, it has a collective responsibility to promote the University's well-being and, in particular, a collective responsibility for the proper management and financial solvency of the institution. Major policy decisions as well as corporate strategy are subject to its approval. Service on the Council may also lead to service on one or more of the University's committees. Lay members therefore have to be prepared to dedicate at least seven days a year to the University's business.

If you wish to be considered for appointment to the Council - or if you wish to propose a third party for appointment - please write, with biographical details, to Roger Gair, Head of Secretariat, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT by Friday 7 June 1996. An information sheet is available from Mr Gair (telephone: 0113 233 4011; e-mail: j.r.gair@registry.leeds.ac.uk).

The University wishes to secure an appropriate gender and ethnic balance on the Council; applications from - or the nomination of - women and people from ethnic minorities would be welcomed. Whilst most Council members are resident in the Leeds region, we would also welcome interest from those in London or other locations which interconnect strongly with Leeds.

The pool of candidates considered for appointment will not be restricted to those whose names come forward in response to this notice.

Those applying or nominated for appointment to the Council may also be considered for appointment to the University Court (the body which, meeting twice a year, has ultimate oversight of the University).

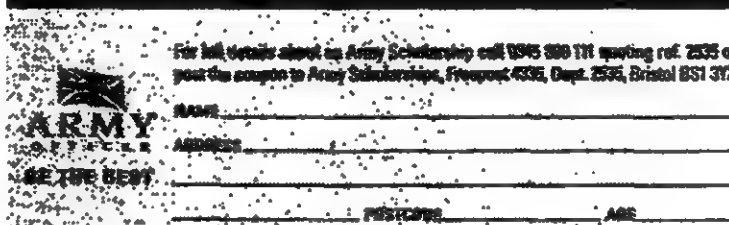
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Applicants will have had a distinguished career, primarily in the further education sector, and will have operated at senior level in an FE institution. They will be able to demonstrate a successful record of strategic planning as well as senior managerial ability in an institutional context, with particular emphasis on management in a multi-cultural environment.

Candidates must have a strong record of educational development and be able to achieve the leadership and respect of the academic community. They will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the essentially vocational nature of Kingsway's mission and its positioning within the FE sector both regionally and nationally.

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Please contact Personnel Services, Kingsway College, Grays Inn Centre, Sidmouth Street, London WC1H 8JB. Telephone 0171 306 5713 (24 hour answer machine) for further details and an application form.

Closing date for receipt of applications: Friday 31 May.

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The job-holder acts as Secretary to the College's Board of Governors and has contacts with both Companies House and the Charities Commissioners.

The remuneration package would be in a range of £30,000-£33,000 per annum including bonus, with a contributory pension scheme available. Relocation help is available.

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The Principal
Ashorne Hill Management College
Ashorne Hill
Leamington Spa
Warwickshire
CV33 9QW
Tel: (01926) 488000

to whom written applications should be made before Monday 24th June 1996.

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Anyone interested in being considered for appointment or wishing to recommend anyone for consideration is

invited to communicate with the Chairman of the Court of Governors at the School. Communications should be marked Private and Confidential, and may be sent to Room H606 or faxed to 0171 404 5510.

Further particulars of the appointment may be obtained from Dr Christine Challis, The Secretary, Room H606. The London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton Street, Aldwych, London WC2A 2AE, tel 0171 955 7009.

Closing date for receipt of applications and recommendations: 20 June 1996.

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مكتبة من الأصل

EDUCATION

How to make schools safe

Susan Elkin offers solutions to the growing problem of dangerous intruders

School security will be back in the news next week, as head teachers vent their anxieties about the state of their premises and their vulnerability in the face of aggressive and abusive adults.

The tragic deaths of Philip Lawrence, the head teacher who died protecting a pupil, and of Nicky Conroy, the schoolgirl shot dead while quietly at work in a school classroom, should have focused attention on the problem of how to keep undesirable away from schools. Unfortunately they did not — or not enough.

Before last week's government report on the subject could be compiled, the school security timebomb, which has ticked menacingly for years, finally blew up. The deranged Thomas Hamilton ran amok and killed 16 infants and a teacher at Dunblane in March.

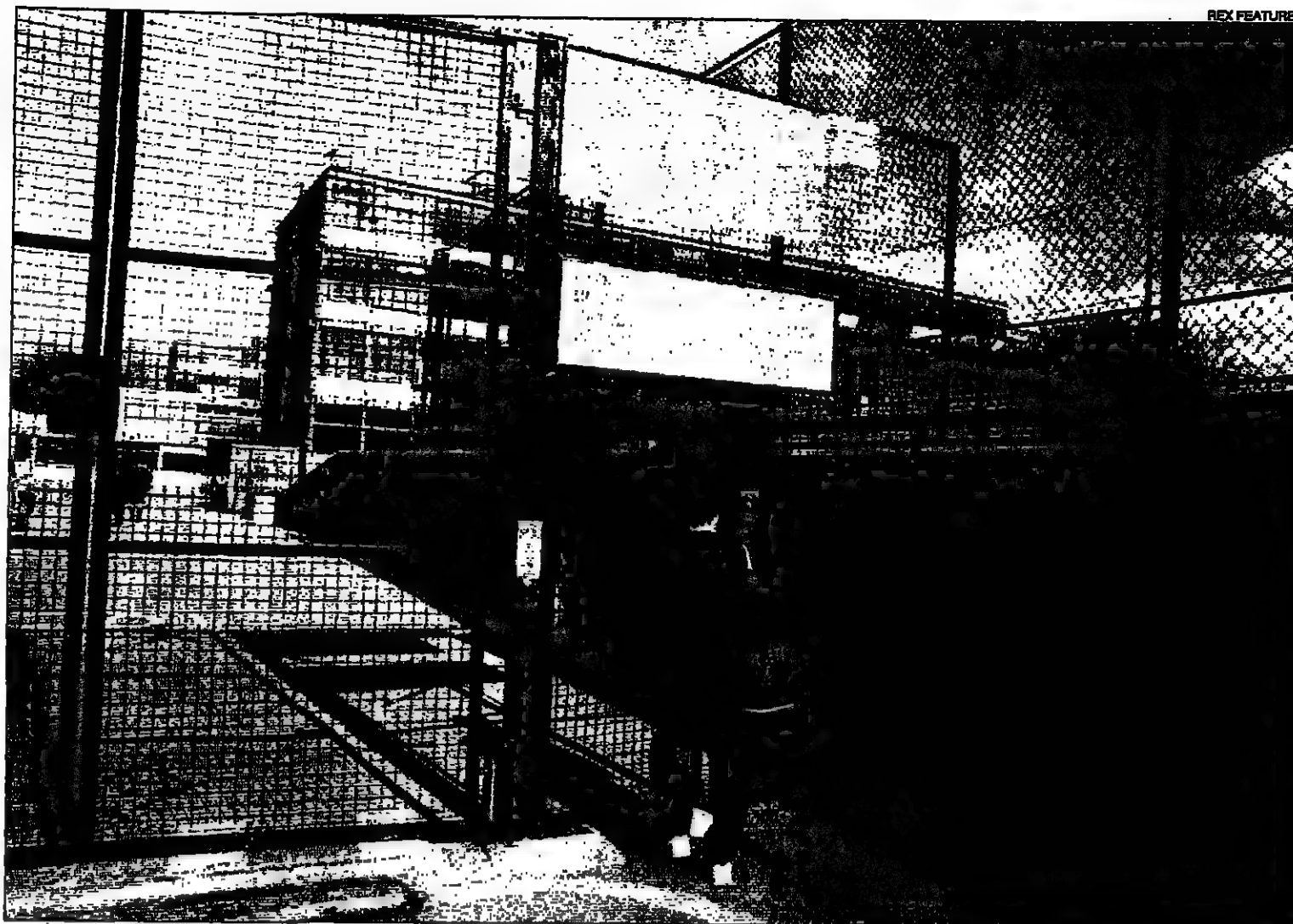
Less dramatic — but nonetheless serious — breaches of school security go on all the time. About four years ago, I had to drive an injured 60-year-old male colleague to hospital. Three young thugs had arrived, trespassing on our girls' school premises via the open side-door. Ron, a smallish, white-haired man, challenged the intruders. Their vicious attack left him on the ground, his face so badly bruised and bleeding that we feared for his left eye.

My office was near the ever-problematic side-door, in an out-of-the-way corner. On several occasions, outside visitors arrived unexpectedly at my door. Usually they were affable, having made a genuine error. On one or two occasions they were alarmingly aggressive. In the end, I never sat working in there with the door unlocked. If I was doubtful, I rang for reinforcements before I opened up.

I learnt a salutary lesson when I needed special protection one lunchtime when an aggrieved mother marched in to "sort me out". My crime? I had reprimanded her less-than-angelic daughter for misbehaviour.

Several schools in my area have suffered devastating arson attacks. Millions have had to be spent on refurbishment or rebuilding, simply because arsonists could walk on to school premises at will.

Then there is theft. It is quite common for thieves to wander into school in search of easy pickings



Is this the future for all schools? A high fence keeps out intruders at the Geoffrey Chaucer School in east London

during the working day. I taught in one school where people and property had to be protected by a security guard with an albatross during parents' evenings.

It is getting worse, for two reasons. First, criminal behaviour seems to be increasing at an alarming rate. Too many people have too little to do, and amorality is becoming the norm.

Secondly, many school buildings are in a parlous state. Fences are non-existent or damaged, flimsy doors need repairing, many sites are ill-lit

and not enough use is made of alarms. Most of this comes down to money and priorities.

There are at least four things, already done by some and addressed in last week's report, which all schools should now be required, and assisted financially, to do.

No school building should have more than one main door. Other doors should be alarmed emergency fire exits, opening only from the inside. The main door should have an entryphone system. Once school is in

session, no one should be able to get onto the premises uninvited.

There should be a vehicle barrier at the main gate or entrance to the grounds and an intercom connection to the main office. This would prevent unwanted or unknown vehicles from being driven onto the site.

Every visitor should be issued with an electronic tag so that the school office can track precisely who is on the premises.

All school sites should be properly fenced. Open green sites which

double as unofficial public parks for the local community at weekends and after school hours are simply not safe. I know one formerly "open" school which was comprehensively fenced just before Christmas. Staff and pupils unanimously report that they feel much safer now.

And lastly, public footpaths. The last three schools I have taught at have all been traversed by public rights of way. Since you cannot always distinguish the harmful from the harmless, it should be a condition of planning permission that footpaths are diverted off site when new schools are proposed. Schools and local education authorities should, moreover, be applying, as a matter of priority, to move all the existing paths which cross school sites.

Some local authorities are reputed to "require" a specific accident tally at a danger spot on the road before they will sanction the construction of a zebra crossing. Are we seeing the same careless-of-life attitude to the safety of children and adults in schools?

CUTTING DOWN THE RISK: AN EXPERT VIEW

IAN JOHNSON, a security consultant based in Surrey, tells schools trying to improve security: "Find out what the risks are likely to be — then get independent objective advice and get an integrated solution."

Schools are top of the list of commercial buildings likely to be damaged by arson, he says. "Good boundary security is vital. It's got to define the school as private property.

There should be good access control, secure lockable doors and windows and lighting which shows up the peripheral areas but not the building.

"You might consider the judicious use of closed-circuit television as a deterrent — although its main use is as an investigative tool. Electronic tags or an access control system are fine but must be carefully managed.

Security guards are expensive and might give a school the wrong image. As schools, like industry, move into the high-tech world they must beware of computer theft. Chip theft has reached epidemic proportions.

"Good asset-tagging systems to monitor equipment are coming on the market now and we have high hopes of them"

Stephen Logan on the reality behind the university ratings. Are students losing out?

Teaching comes a poor second

Last week's Good University Guide made full use of the official assessments of teaching and research which have assumed such importance in higher education. By measuring teaching and research in crude quantitative terms, the Government claims to be indicating the relative merits of university departments.

However, to judge from my conversations with non-academics, the public has little idea of what is really going on. Bad measurements that look precise are the most misleading. The present system of academic accountability, as described in last week's Education pages, is calculated to mislead government officials, parents, teachers, students, journalists and academics themselves.

In the 1980s the Government decided that universities should be assessed by their power to produce marketable goods. The nearest thing to that in most subjects is a book. So, since 1992,

universities have been assessed by the quantity of their published research. Academics accordingly use the term "research" for any academic publication.

Since 1995, the Government has displayed the sophistication of its interest in university teaching by assessing that, too. The system has survived not because it is an accurate measure of a department's educational quality, but because most academics who do well under it collude with it.

Measuring a department's quality by its research output inevitably discriminates against students. Academics were formally expected to fit their private studies around their teaching. Now they are penalised if they do not concentrate on their "research".

Until the introduction of

the research assessment exercise, most academics would have agreed that discussing their subject with students was a useful way of testing, refining (and disseminating) knowledge. Teaching, in short, was mutually beneficial. But canny lecturers now know that their bread is buttered chiefly on one side — and students are getting increasingly short measure.

University teaching has become a second-class activity. People who achieve good research ratings are rewarded by exemption from teaching. This reduces the number of good teachers available,

and tends to confirm the already well-established perception of teaching as an activity for second-raters. The main burden of teaching is increasingly borne either by people not especially well-qualified to do it, or by people whose expertise is poorly repaid with either praise or money.

Institutions that pride themselves on their research are frequently quite shameless about this, advertising jobs for "teaching assistants" at £5,000 a year, or relying on freelancers and postgraduates to bump up their staff-student ratios. Nonetheless, a department can still get an

"excellent" for teaching when one-to-one supervision of students is a rarity and classes of 20 undergraduates and upwards are common.

The crudeness of the method for assessing teaching makes the research assessment exercise look subtle. How many of the school-teachers who are impressed to see a university department rated "excellent" realise a) that the only alternatives are "satisfactory" and "unsatisfactory" and b) that these ratings are not awarded by assessors, but are applied for by university departments, then checked by assessors?

Good researchers are rewarded individually. Good teachers are not. My best teachers — and I consider myself fortunate in having had several — did not publish much. Under the actuarial system of today, the quality of

their work would not have been recognised.

On the other hand, most academic books and articles are not worth the writing. Most of what wins a university a "5" in the research ratings is neither useful nor enjoyable. The energy that goes into them would, for the most part, be better spent on teaching. This would be good for students, good for the morale of gifted teachers, and would clear the ground so that really valuable published work would be easily recognised by more than a small army of anxiety-ridden dons.

There is no justification for the fact that exceptional teachers are undervalued while mediocre "researchers" are overpraised. No justification besides the fact that it is easier to count pages than to understand the subtle means by which the best kinds of learning are nourished.

● The author is Director of Studies in English at St Edmund's College, Cambridge.

From dyslexia to public school scholar

Bruce Kemble visits the country prep trying a new approach

Bruern Abbey prep school, in a Georgian house nearly lost in the depths of the Cotswolds, is about to become the country's first prep entirely devoted to converting dyslexic pupils into successful candidates for top public schools.

For seven years, it has been a conventional institution with a reputation for doing well by its children with special learning difficulties. Already, Leo Geddes, a dyslexic pupil from the Shipton-under-Wychwood school, has won a place at Eton. Leo was a judge's son who the staff say was brilliant and will one day be a QC. But he lacked confidence.

Now Sterling Stover, the prep's American-born Principal, has decided to admit only those suffering from dyslexia. He says: "Socially, we were marvellous but academically there were problems. We handled the dyslexics in the conventional way. They would be taken out of lessons for help in a small group. This worked when it was for only two or three lessons a week — but if they needed more when they came back into mainstream classes, they had to catch up."

Their schoolmasters, being schoolmasters, would want to make sure they'd caught up, so they'd set the same material again. The boys who had not missed these lessons would have to go through them again and began to feel resentful. It became counter-productive."

Numbers went down. Mr Stover recruited Paddy Heazell, a leading prep-school headmaster, and discussed what to do.

Mr Stover, a lawyer, says: "We have superb prep schools on each side of us — Summer Fields, the Dragon, Cothill — with magnificent facilities.

They are among the best in the country and are only 35 minutes' drive away. There is not the demand for a small country prep any more. We needed to do something educationally different. We are not in competition with these schools. We couldn't offer on a smaller scale what the Dragon did. The answer became fairly obvious. We should concentrate on what we did well: concentrating on children who are not thriving in a conventional environment."

Mr Stover, who has been in Texas 45 years ago and has lived in England for 20 years, bought Bruern Abbey because he fell "in love with the south front on a summer's day".

He added: "There are about half a dozen independent schools that concentrate on dyslexic children, but they do not prepare them for the Common Entrance exam — the only passport to public schools. We felt there was a need for a school that would change its teaching methods, without altering the Common Entrance syllabus."

And though the buildings may well be nearly three centuries old, he is striding out at the head of the technological revolution.

"The laptop or the computer may well be the great equaliser for dyslexic children," he says. "Each of our pupils will have one."

Teachers often say: "If you can spell, you're not dyslexic." Mr Stover says: "The pupils who can word-process all their essays in the Common Entrance will have a great advantage. Imagine the effect on the markers if they see something beautifully typewritten and without a spelling mistake."



Bruern Abbey prep school: an unusual approach

The high price of peace in Bosnia

Help is needed to restore higher education in Sarajevo and Tuzla, Daniel Rosenthal reports

For much of the past four years, Bosnian academics have had to negotiate sniper's alleys on the way to deliver lectures in the unheated, bomb-damaged halls of Sarajevo and Tuzla universities.

As the civil war raged, many lecturers carried on teaching — working without pay in appalling conditions to enable hundreds of equally determined undergraduates to complete their degrees.

Now, as the two universities begin the process of reconstruction, a London-based appeal set up to aid their survival is marking its first birthday with a renewed call for help.

Academic Lifeline for Bosnia was established under the auspices of the World University Service (an Austrian organisation which helps universities in crisis). With the Association of University Teachers publicising the appeal nationwide, cash and

thousands of pounds worth of books and stationery came in from as far afield as Bosnia as Huddersfield and Southampton. The latest aid shipment left last month.

From a 1992 peak of 21,500 full-time and 10,000 part-time students, Sarajevo University now has perhaps 8,000 in total. Of 1,500 academic staff, 14 were killed and fewer than 500 remain. More than 30 per cent of the university's premises were destroyed. The situation in Tuzla is not much better.

British universities cannot afford to offer major financial assistance. But, according to the founders of Academic Lifeline — Dr Celia Hawkesworth, of the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, in London, and Dr Zoran Pajic,

formerly Professor of International Public Law at Sarajevo — they can contribute by revitalising Bosnia's war-weary dons.

Dr Pajic says: "If Sarajevo and Tuzla academics could spend a few weeks at a British university they would re-establish contact with the higher education community and regain their self-confidence."

"As well as facing terrible physical hardships, they have been isolated from new books and journals for four years. Just being able to work in a well-stocked library would recharge their research and teaching batteries."

Last November, Academic Lifeline organised a consciousness-raising tour of 11 UK universities by Professor Nedžad Mulabegovic, Rector

of Sarajevo, and Professor Enver Mandzic, Pro-Rector of Tuzla. As a result, Derby and Keele universities and Wye College, London, are hoping to arrange short visits by Bosnian staff. But Dr Pajic, now at King's College London, knows that many more offers of help are needed.

The opening of a new British Council office in Sarajevo in March provided a welcome boost. Susan Barnes, the office's director, says: "Supporting higher education in Sarajevo and Tuzla is one of my main priorities."

Academic Lifeline is also offering cash support to Sarajevo and Tuzla's lecturers, many of whom may be considering moving abroad. A "Stop The Brain Drain" fund, which

aims to provide £40 a month for individual staff members, was set up last year by Dr Hazel Smith, director of the University of Kent's Centre of International Relations.

"It might not sound a lot, but conditions are still so bad that it would make a huge difference in encouraging people to stay," she says. The fund stands at £3,200, leaving Dr Smith a long way off her target of £10,000 by June.

Dr Pajic believes that higher education in Bosnia has a pivotal role to play — one that concerns more than the training of the next generation of doctors, lawyers and engineers.

● Donations, made payable to WUS Bosnia Appeal, can be sent to WUS (UK), 20 Compton Terrace, London N1 2UN. Offers of support to Dr Zoran Pajic, School of Law, King's College London WC2R 2LS (071-573 2023).

Varsity guide

FOUR departments were omitted from the rankings of individual subjects, which were published as part of the Good University Guide published on May 15.

Manchester University should have been joint seventh for computing and Birmingham University tenth in the music table.

The Institute of Earth Studies at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, would have made the top 20 for geography, geology or environmental science but was not included in the separate categories.

Manchester University's "excellent" rating for geology teaching was published too late for inclusion in the tables. The department would have been joint fourth.

The commentary to the chemistry table omitted Imperial College, London, from the list of departments with a top rating for both teaching and research. The college was correctly placed fourth in the table.

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Safety fears cast cloud over American showpiece

Big names' boycott drives Indy 500 to crisis point

It seems like a strange place for a battleground. The swathe of scrubby countryside that hides the hulk of the Michigan International Speedway is a byword not a participant, a land where giant trucks rumble between the Great Lakes, where red paint peels off dilapidated barns. The clue is in the names of the towns. Waterloo is nearby, so is Bunkerhill. Napoleon is three miles away... and the army is coming.

They began arriving here yesterday. All the biggest names in IndyCar racing pulled in off US12 and swept into the daunting oval track, the fastest speedway in the world. Al Unser Jr, Emerson Fittipaldi, Michael Andretti, Paul Tracy and Mark Blundell — they were all there. On Sunday, they will climb into their cars and begin the process of trying to destroy the most famous motor race in the world.

This year, they are boycotting the Indianapolis 500, traditionally the highlight, almost the *raison d'être*, of the IndyCar calendar, to race here in the inaugural US500. In the process, they have turned the Indy 500 into Wimbledon without Agassi, Sampras and Muster, an event without its leading players.

More than that, their absence has led to fears that the novices who have been rushed in as their replacements will be overwhelmed by the speeds reached on the 2.5-mile banked oval. The pessimists are preparing for a gory procession of crashes.

The struggle for the heart and soul of single-seater racing in America, personified in rival races this weekend, is essentially a squabble between Tony George, the president of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and IndyCar's most powerful team owners. At the end of last season, George established the breakaway Indy Racing League (IRL), using the presence of the Indianapolis 500 in its calendar as its sole

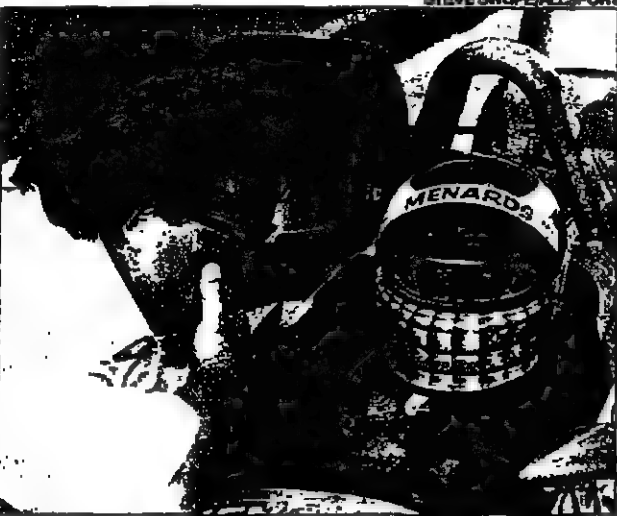


Oliver Holt reports from Brooklyn, Michigan, on the effects of a motor racing rival

selling point, hoping to coax away teams from the familiar Championship Auto Racing Teams (CART) organisation that runs IndyCar.

Few were seduced, so, at the start of the year, George resorted to the ultimate sanction and ruled that the first 25 places on the grid for the Indy 500 would be reserved for cars racing in the IRL. At that point, the big guns in the IndyCar series decided that enough was enough and announced plans for the US500 to be staged on the same weekend. Most thought that it was brinkmanship on both sides and that compromise would be reached, but no solution has been found.

George has used the IRL to trumpet the cause of young American racers who could not find a place in IndyCar, but Andrew Craig, the chief executive of CART, who had to fight off an injunction trying to stop the organisation using the name IndyCar, claims that George's motives lie elsewhere.



Brayton, right, consults Larry Curry of his Menards team during his ill-fated preparations at Indianapolis

"Seventeen years ago," he said, "team owners decided that the way IndyCar was being run by the US Auto Club, which was an extension of Indianapolis, could be improved upon. It was mediocre and badly regulated. It was going nowhere fast. They transformed it into what IndyCar has become today. Now the Speedway would like that back. They feel it was stolen from them. They would like it back, but we are not particularly interested in that."

So, on Sunday, two hours before 98,000 spectators watch the cream of IndyCar racers begin their 200-lap spectacular here, the biggest crowd for any single-day event anywhere in the world, more than 350,000 people, will converge on Indianapolis to hear the famous command, "Gentlemen, start your engines", and settle down to watch a field of largely unknown drivers compete for the most prestigious title in

motor racing. More than half the field, 17 out of the 33 starters, have never raced at Indianapolis before and the difference between the fastest and slowest lap times is more than twice that of previous years, another statistic that is causing alarm and trepidation.

The race, won last year by Jacques Villeneuve, who will be a spectator at the rival US500 on Sunday, was dealt a severe blow a week ago when Scott Brayton, one of the only experienced drivers in the event and the man who was on pole position, was killed during practice. His right rear tyre burst and catapulted his Lola Buick into the concrete wall at more than 230mph.

George's tribute was interpreted in some quarters as, unwittingly or not, an advertising speech. "Scott Brayton died doing what he loved best," George said. "Going fast at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway."

Brayton's funeral, led by a Speedway pace car and waved along by chequered flags, took place on Wednesday, in Coldwater, Michigan. There have been other accidents, too. Billy Boat suffered a dislocated shoulder in a crash last week and Dan Drinan, a midget car driver, broke his left foot and hip and suffered concussion while he was trying to qualify in an outdated car. Brad Murphy, another rookie, who has not driven competitively for five years, caused another qualifying alarm when he absent-mindedly drifted perilously close to a car driven by Billy Stewart travelling at 236mph.

Worst of all, perhaps, is the news that Brayton's place has been taken by Danny Ongais, from Hawaii, a 54-year-old who has not raced in an IndyCar for nine years. For those seeking any more bad omens, one is hidden in Tony George's past. Elmer, his father, crashed on the parade lap while he waved to the crowd before his first Indianapolis 500.



Gifford in control of the high-spirited O'Leary in their dressage test yesterday

History defied by Johnston

By Jenny MacArthur

AVRIL JOHNSTON, on the aptly-named Independent Archie, held a slender 0.8pt lead over Pippa Funnell, the defending champion, on Rainbow Magic, at the end of a windy, rain-swept first day of dressage at the Windsor International Horse Trials yesterday.

Deisy Dick, the daughter of Dave Dick, the 1956 Grand National winner, was in third place on For The Crack — much to her surprise. "He must look a lot better than he feels," she said. Other good tests came from Jemima Johnson, on Canadian Gold, her stylish ex-racehorse, and Emma Douglas-Miller, on Red Baron III, who were in joint fourth place.

Johnston's flowing test on Independent Archie belied the

turbulent history of the nine-year-old gelding. "He was going to get the buller as a young horse because no one could break him in," she said. Impressed by the way that he regularly escaped from his field over a brick wall, Johnston persuaded Caroline Durnett to buy him. He is still difficult and allows only Johnston and Durnett into his stable.

Funnell, who might have retained her lead had Rainbow Magic not broken in the extended trot, was nevertheless delighted with his performance. One of four talented seven-year-olds in her Surrey yard, Rainbow Magic was bought two years ago from Peter Charles, the European showjumping champion.

Recent cross-country training from Mark Phillips has also boosted her morale. She plans to take all the quick routes on the course tomorrow. Dick was keeping her plans flexible. For The Crack spent two years as a hunting hireling in Ireland and, as a result, is almost too careful in the country.

With several international riders close behind them — including Matt Ryan, the Olympic champion from Australia, on Kibah Sandstone, and Kristina Gifford, an Olympic shortlisted rider for Great Britain, on O'Leary — the leaders cannot afford mistakes tomorrow. Gifford, who was up at 6.30am to make sure that the high-spirited O'Leary was well worked in for his dressage, is likely to move up from eighth tomorrow.

Wigan must rely on Bath mistakes, rather than on their ball-winning capacity, to launch a running game, and will have to do so without Shaun Edwards, their captain and scrum half. He has bruised ribs and Craig Murdoch steps in at half back alongside Joe Lydon, press-ganged out of retirement after 18 months, mainly for his tactical kicking. Where Wigan have the potential beating of Bath is a three-quarter line of Robinson, Connolly, Paul and Offiah.

Wigan's K. Richards, J. Robinson, N. Paul, G. Connolly, M. Connolly, J. Lydon, C. Murdoch, T. O'Connor, M. Hall, N. Connolly, S. Taitupu, A. Farrell, S. Haughton, V. Tugamala, S. Quinnell.

Bradford Bulls will move into third place in the Stages Super League if they add to a demoralised Leeds side's woes at Odsal tonight when Stuart Spruce, Bradford's latest acquisition, makes his debut.

Wigan's imports tackle Bath at their own game

By Christopher Irvine

VA'IGA TUIGAMALA, dubbed "Inga the winger" in his erstwhile New Zealand rugby union days, will become Inga the flanker at Twickenham tomorrow. The former All Black is part of an all-international union back row for Wigan, alongside Scott Quinnell, once of Wales, and Silem Taitupu, of Western Samoa, in the return cross-code match against Bath, under union rules.

Wigan can call upon some formidable union experience, but that does not detract from the struggle expected, especially in the set pieces. They toyed with the idea of putting Tuigamala in the front row. Rather than ballast, however, his penetrating strength was seen as better for making quick inroads and tackling around the fringes.

Farrell and Haughton, for no reason other than height, are the lineout jumpers chosen to oppose Redman and Haag. The front row is Wigan's usual one of O'Connor, Hall and Cowie — whose knowledge of union comprises a handful of training sessions.

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Hartington stokes fires of reform

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the most remarkable chapters in British racing this century draws to a close next month. Peregrine Andrew Morny Cavendish Hartington — known to one and all as "Stoker" — steps down from the helm of a sport which has been transformed by his leadership over the past seven years.

For once, the superlatives are not misplaced. The name of Hartington will rank alongside those of Rous and Benckis as one of the great reformers of the Turf. In some ways his achievements dwarf those of his 19th Century predecessors; while they enjoyed absolute power, he has had to rely on reasoned argument, trust and bundles of natural charm.

Shortly after becoming senior steward of the Jockey Club in 1989, he realised that the self-elected oligarchy which had run the sport for more than two centuries would no longer suffice in a world where democracy, accountability and fair representation mattered. Perhaps it was just coincidence that another leader, faced with an equally ancient regime, was thinking along similar lines. His name was Mikhail Gorbachev. Both men, products of the old order, set about bringing in the new.

Hartington was helped by a Commons select committee inquiry which examined the management of racing and found it wanting. Armed with their conclusions, he persuaded the Jockey Club and those outside that the creation of a new representative body to run racing was crucial to the sport's future. The British

Horsing Board (BHB) was born during the summer of 1993 and, after serving as its first chairman for three years, he will step down on June 6. "What was a bit daunting at the beginning was to see whether this completely new thing was going to work and, of course, it is much too early to say. From the internal point of view, so far so good, it has worked well. The relationship with the Jockey Club is good and all the changes over the last few years have gone smoothly. "The outside will take a lot longer because it is still unproven. The perception of success depends on whether the industry thinks the BHB is working. If the industry accepts decisions which go against a particular bit of it — such as racecourses or owners — then it is working. And that, so far, has more or less worked."

"I will probably get more difficult, certainly if the betting trends go downwards. That would lead to real pressure. Money papers over a lot of cracks and, if there is less money, the cracks get wider a bit quicker."

"The BHB's main achievement is that between us we have managed to be heard in Westminster. That was probably the biggest challenge. Whilst we don't always get everything we want, we have had three lots of tax changes, including VAT, Sunday racing and significant deregulation."

Perhaps the hardest task facing his successor, Lord Wakeham, is preventing racing from indulging in another bout of blood-letting as pressure grows for increased prize



Lord Hartington enjoys a day at Goodwood as he nears the end of his chairmanship of the British Horseracing Board

money, gaining control of the Tote and the spending functions of the Levy Board. The threat of internal feuding is never far away.

Hartington knows the dangers, but he stresses the positive. "The latest bee in my bonnet is lack of communication. I think the real mistake the Jockey Club made was that it didn't tell anybody what it was doing and, therefore, people assumed it was not doing anything. Of course, it was, but without telling anyone, people were not aware of it. And that is a still a problem for the BHB and the Jockey Club. If we fail

to bring the industry with us it will be a failure of communication."

"As an owner and breeder — he has more than 20 horses in training with Lady Curren, John Gosden, David Morley, Henrietta Knight and Owen Side Hill Stud — he is acutely aware of how British prize-money still lags well behind countries such as France. The BHB will have to continue to explain and to perform. It is not just good enough saying we are doing our best. We have to show people what we are doing."

"Similarly, if we don't understand what the problems of

bookmakers are, we will make mistakes. Even if we don't agree with them, we have to understand their difficulties and lately I think all of the BHB absolutely accept the off-course bookmakers have been having a very difficult time."

"Sometimes in the racing industry there is a perception that all bookmakers are multi-millionaires. That may have been the case 15 years ago, but it certainly isn't the case now. There is no point anyone thinking they have got loads of money which they can give away to us, because that is not real life."

In the space of seven years,

Hartington's ability to lead and inspire has saved racing from itself and given the sport a chance to flourish as the new century beckons. Whether the BHB will be able to take advantage without the man whose vision brought it all about remains to be seen, but he has some advice for his colleagues on the board.

"Keep listening, because that is what we all have to do. Talking is fine, but you have to listen as well. It is very important racing should go on being fun — because it is nothing other than."

Yesterday's results, page 44

PONTEFRAC

6.48 Break The Rules, 7.10 Maradeta, 7.35 Alpine Time, 8.05 DANCING (nep), 8.35 Hotspur Street, 8.50 Maradeta.

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DAY MAY 24
ON BRIEF
Auckland
thrills to
Super 12

free charge

1/10/96



**To give our competitors a sporting chance,
we've been asked to put on a bit of extra weight.**

Oh dear. It appears that the well-earned victories for the Audi A4 quattros in this year's Auto Trader RAC British Touring Car Championship have been eating away at certain members of the motor racing fraternity. To the extent that we've just had yet another 30kg weight handicap slapped on us. Will it spoil our appetite for success? Fat chance.

... tiles
... working

portunity to show off his qualities as missionary to the spiritually benighted.

"Give me the gun!" he pleaded.

"Jesus said that those who live by the gun, die by the gun!" The kid (aged about ten) was unimpressed — and not because he recognised a misquotation. He looked at the big book he was offered, and then back at the man, as if he was weighing up which was worth more: the open market. He kept the gun. But refusing to give up (and still performing for our benefit) Rick abandoned the New Testament, and offered money. This time the kid gladly surrendered his piece, while secretly keeping another nudge into his belt.

Well, suffer the little children, or what? Finally, as the kid prepared to scarp, Rick gave advice directly inspired from Above: "If you ever do have to shoot anyone," he consoled, peeling off notes: "re-

Lynne
Truss

decades of suppression, the Russian Orthodox Church was just adjusting its beard, clearing its throat, and straightening a few icons on the wall, and what happened? Yanks with snake-oil training spilt out of trucks, converting the heathen to happy-clappy, and saying "I l-er-ve Russia!" (in English).

This was the real question, of course. And *Russia's Holy War* does not address it. "This is my twenty-first visit to Russia!" boasted the strapping and very well-muscled

ing in?" I bring kerosene for your spiritual fire!" announced the dapper Rev Rick Amato, stretching his pudgy arms in a tight-fitting suit. And good luck to him for finding something harmless to do with his life. Rick was a bad-boy drug addict back home, and Jesus saved him. And now, in a hilarious scene, Rick in turn was saving Russian street-child with a loaded

Well, suffer the little children, or what? Finally, as the kid prepared to scarpie, Rick gave advice directly inspired from Above: "If you ever do have to shoot anyone," he confided, peeling off notes: "re-

Bandadsz TV
Channel 4, 11.10pm

Prepare to be startled, diverted and perhaps affronted, as Joe and Andrea Oliver return for the second time to travel through the lighter side of black culture in Britain, the Caribbean and the United States. The flamboyant presenters, he the inventor of gangsta rap, she the singer who once had a band with Neneh Cherry, guarantee that even if the contents fall flat the paginating will specifically keep the line up for the viewer who looks highly promiscuous. Among the items are reports on a black $\frac{1}{2}$ -size magazine, a weekend for 500 black Britons at Butlins in Skegness and on why reggae music is so big in Japan. And there is a new video game devised by an enterprising company in Jacksonville which features a Bandadsz homophob character and a soundtrack of hip hop and beat beats.

Peter Wymark

10.30 **RITV** **West News** *also available on (r)sc4(13)*

10.40 **NEW** **International Festival of the Sea**, Bob Connor visits the festival in Bristol (1959)

11.10 **FILM:** *The Raven* (1963) with Vincent Price, Boris Karloff and Peter Lorre. Over the top Edgar Allan Poe send-up about three sorcerers who pit their magical powers against one another. Directed by Roger Corman (841182)

12.40 **Hotel Babylon** (c) (6483903) **1.20** **The Good Sex Guide... Late** (c) (2150293)


2.20 **FILM:** *The Flying Dutchman* (1939, b/w) Classic Laurel and Hardy slapstick comedy. Directed by Edward Sutherland (5371815)

3.30 **Not Fade Away** (c) (c) (74496) **4.30** **International Festival of the Sea** (1959) (B1800) **5.00** **Best of British Music Sport** (c) (39903)

5.30 **Morning News** (57212)

(535089) 10.00 Fourways Farm (6790057)
10.10 The Mix (2386637) 10.25 The
Technology (2374892) 10.40 Of Little
[415705] 11.05 The Score (9016057) 11.25
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[5762927] 11.40 Living Proof (7579182) 12.00
Sesame Street (700052) 1.00pm Still Meistrich
(37368) 1.30 Film: The Belle of New York
[54182] 3.00 Film: The Bad Lord Byron
(77778) 4.00 An Inspector Calls (328) 5.00
Pump: Noo Noo (5558) 5.50 Fingers to One
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Home to Roost (5208) 9.30 Life After Birth
(71231) 10.00 Brookside (64453) 10.30 Rory
Brenner - Who Was (551927) 11.00
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The Man Who Lived Twice (687545) 2.35
Best Stories (5751274)

Andrew Oliver in the swing (11.10pm)

11.10  **Bandstand TV.** A light-hearted look at black popular culture (s) (197328)

11.40 T.F.I. Friday (r) (810589)

12.45 Flea. Videos from the contemporary black music scene (214853)

1.20 FILM: The Man Who Lived Twice (1936, b/w) starring Ralph Bellamy and Thurston Hall. Drama about a killer who undergoes surgery in order to make a new identity for himself. Directed by Henry Lachman (Teletext) (9164212)

2.40am Beat Specialists. Molly Halfhead and Doggy (r) (s) (1777800). Ends at 3.35

he holds all the stars, with Michael Douglas, Andy Garcia, and Kathleen Quinlan. Directed by Ridley Scott (Cineplex) (s) (103415)


12.50 FLINK. Ned Tangelo (1991) starring Vincent D'Onofrio and Mathilda May, with Fernando Rey. Erotic thriller set in the early days of the tango in 1920s Buenos Aires. Directed by Leonard Schrader (Cineplex) (s) (6861477)

1.50mm Weather (387498)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+™, Pluscode™ and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

Arresting Dawn French (9.00pm)

9.00  Murder Most Horrid: Dying Live (Ceelax) (s) (3142)

9.30 The High Life. Farical comedy about airline cabin crew (r) (Ceelax) (s) (86163)

10.00 Have I Got News for You. Angus Deayton and Ian Hislop are joined by Piers Morgan, Felix Dexter and Clive Anderson (s) (46057)

10.30 Newswight (Ceelax) (540811)

11.15 Pilot Paradise: Hi-De-Hi! The first edition of the popular comedy series (t) (1414182)

11.55 This Life (10/11) (r) (Ceelax) (s) (675366)

12.40 FILM: The Beast with Five Fingers (1946, b/w) starring Peter Lone, Andrea Cullen and Robert Alton. Directed by Robert Florey (2796030) Ends at 2.10am

Badassess TV
Channel 4, 11.10pm

Prepare to be startled, diverted and perhaps affronted as ace-T and America Oliver return for anotherrawl through the lighter side of black culture in Britain, the Caribbean and the United States. The flamboyant presenters, he the inventor of gangsta rap, she the singer who once had a band with Neneh Cherry, guarantee that even if the contents fall flat the packaging will sparkle. Actually the lineup for the new series looks highly promising. Among the items are reports on a black $\frac{1}{2}$ -size magazine, a weekend for 300 black Britons at Butlins in Skegness and on why reggae music is so big in Japan. And there is a new video game devised by an enterprising company in Derbyshire which features a range of homeboy characters and a soundtrack of hip hop and phat beats.

Peter Waymark

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2.40am Beat Specialists. Molly Halfhead and Doggy (r) (s) (1777800). Ends at 3.35

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540) 8.30 Racing (80540) 9.00 (9861018) 2.00 FILM: THE
88C) 9.30 Trans World Sport (2956458) 3.30-4.00 Robotics

LAB: CASH
ch (4294564)

7.45	Rugrats	(5356521)	8.00	Doug	9.35	Kate
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Down Patrol on Europe 405 Correspondent

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SPORT

FRIDAY MAY 24 1996

BOWLS 42

SKIPPING IN NEW
PASTURES IN SEARCH
OF EQUALITY

India's Texaco Trophy challenge fades after dazzling opening partnership

Lewis returns with four-wicket burst

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE OVAL (England won toss): India, with five wickets standing, need 196 runs from 32.5 overs to beat England

THE rehabilitation of England's cricket fortunes may be a protracted business, but the patient made an encouraging start on the road to recovery yesterday. India had been subdued, if not quite conquered, when the forecast rain arrived on schedule at the Oval. The frustration of having to complete the first Texaco Trophy game in a near-empty ground today will seem a small price to pay for an England team that needs nothing more urgently than a reacquaintance with victory.

It was not an entirely smooth ride, for England won a toss that might have been better lost, batted when the pitch was inhospitable and failed to achieve their lofty targets in the initial 15 overs. Later, the defence of a healthy 291, 91 of them made by Graeme Hick, was imperilled by a thrilling Indian counter-

Simon Wilde 44
Mature Hussain 44
Wells in space 44

attack that brought 52 runs from a wayward first five overs.

However, the character and versatility that the selectors sought, the specific suitability for one-day cricket that they identified, was endorsed at each wrong turning. England's cricket was more vibrant, and better directed, than at any stage of the World Cup and, when the rain came, it was India who retreated gratefully.

At the time, they were sinking fast. From 54 without loss in the sixth over, they had subsided to 68 for five in the twelfth. Most of the damage was inflicted by Chris Lewis, who took four wickets for six in 21 balls, displaying confirmation of his enviable yet elusive talent and gratitude to the selectors who gave him one more chance to fulfil it.

The selectors, indeed, could congratulate themselves on choices and tactics that were largely successful. Even Raymond Illingworth, the chairman, emerged smiling after two days of lying low and was superficially untroubled by the storm of disapproval gath-

ering against his forthcoming book. Lancashire entered the debate yesterday, voicing disapproval to the Test and County Cricket Board over its nature and timing. Illingworth is also threatened by legal action from Ian Botham, over some unflattering remarks made in a newspaper interview.

It is developing into open season for those who disapprove of Illingworth's style and would prefer him removed from office. To date, the chairman is rising genially above it.

He says that he has been happy to leave the final preparations for this tournament to David Lloyd, the new coach, and Michael Atherton, the captain. It was their decision to include an extra bowler at the expense of Matthew Maynard that meant that there were three international newcomers, all specialist one-day players.

Alistair Brown, the first of them, made a mixed impression. Dropped at slip, by Rathore off the luckless Srinath, from the second ball that he received, Brown had the limitations of his defensive technique thoroughly exposed, but he was not picked to defend and, amid some embarrassing moments, he also struck the ball in uncompromising fashion.

Orle bookmaker offered a spread of 80-85 on the 15-over score, but England, in the event, did not come close. They lost Atherton, to a beauty from Prasad, and Smith, to Mhambray's fifth ball in international cricket. When the field was spread, they had reached only 64.

Brown fell to a loose drive soon after, prefacing what might now be thought the interlude of "proper batting" that occupies the middle overs of a one-day innings. Hick and Thorpe added 56 in ten overs before Thorpe, nibbling unadvisedly at Jadeja, edged to Mongia.

Stewart, betrayed by the nervousness of a man under pressure for his place, set off for a single as he pushed to the left of Jadeja, the bowler, and found that he had underestimated his agility and accuracy. So it fell to the all-rounders, two of them new and one recalled, to accompany Hick through the closing overs.

Irani made only 11, but was



Atherton moves in to congratulate Lewis who is already signalling his delight at knocking back the departing Sidhu's off stump. Photograph: Marc Aspland

a shade unlucky to be caught on the long-leg boundary. Ealham hit Tendulkar for two consecutive sixes on his way to 40 from 34 balls and Lewis dominated the last four overs as Hick, driving expansively and unselfishly, was out nine short of a deserved century.

The last ten overs of the England innings had yielded 92 runs, but Tendulkar and Rathore threatened to eclipse that, unerringly punishing the leg-stump line of the new-ball bowlers. It was heady cricket, but Lewis stalled it effectively once Rathore had hit over-

length ball. The promotion of Kumble was baffling and brief and Martin's successful leg-before shout against Tendulkar was vital, if contentious.

Sidhu and Manjrekar played loose strokes when the time for composure had arrived. Although Azharuddin and Jadeja survived a 20-minute resumption in girn light India's main hope now is that the weather restricts further play today. The match is official once 25 overs of the second innings have been bowled. If India have scored 146 by then, they can still win.

SCOREBOARD FROM THE OVAL

England won toss

ENGLAND

*M A Atherton c Mongia b Prasad 13 (40min, 31 balls)

A D Brown b Mhambray 57 (55min, 52 balls, 4 fours)

N M K Smith c Tendulkar b Mhambray 17 (55min, 11 balls, 4 fours)

G A Hick c Manjrekar b Srinath 61 (151min, 102 balls, 1 six, 4 fours)

G P Thorpe c Mongia b Jadeja 28 (40min, 31 balls, 2 fours)

T A J Stewart run out (Jadeja) 3 (7min, 8 balls)

R C Irani c Prasad b Kumble 11 (18min, 13 balls)

M A Ealham b Kumble 40 (41min, 34 balls, 2 sixes, 3 fours)

CC Lewis not out

(17min, 21 balls, 1 six, 2 fours)

D G Cork not out (5min, 1 ball)

Extras (b 1, lb 11, w 11, nb 1) 24

Total (8 wickets, 80 overs, 214min) 291

P J Martin did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-31 (Brown 18), 2-57 (Brown 25), 3-58 (Hick 11), 4-141 (Hick 37), 5-147 (Hick 40), 6-176 (Hick 54), 7-222 (Hick 88), 8-276 (Lewis 17)

BOWLING: Srinath 10-1-45-1 (nb 1, w 2, 4 fours; 6-1-20-0, 2-0-11-0, 2-0-14-1); Prasad 10-1-53-1 (nb 1, 1 six, 5 fours; 6-1-25-1, 4-0-35-0); Mhambray 9-0-59-2 (w 7, 8 fours; 7-0-50-2, 2-0-12-0, 5-1-7-1, 2-0-10-1); Tendulkar 6-0-44-0 (w 2, 3 sixes; 4-0-27-0, 1-0-17-0); Jadeja 5-0-29-1 (one spell)

INDIA

V Rathore lbw b Lewis 23 (25min, 19 balls, 3 fours)

S R Tendulkar lbw b Martin 30 (30min, 19 balls, 1 six, 5 fours)

A Kumble c Hick b Lewis 0 (1min, 2 balls)

N S Sidhu b Lewis 3 (17min, 13 balls)

*M Azharuddin not out 15 (40min, 25 balls, 1 four)

S V Manjrekar b Lewis 3 (5min, 8 balls)

A D Jadeja not out 11 (20min, 18 balls, 2 fours)

Extras (b 4, lb 2, w 4, nb 1) 11

Total (5 wickets, 17.1 overs, 80min) 98

IN R Mongia, J Srinath, M Mhambray and B K V Prasad to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-54 (Tendulkar 28), 2-54 (Tendulkar 28), 3-58 (Azharuddin 4), 4-58 (Azharuddin 4)

BOWLING: Cork 3-0-21-0 (w 2, 4 fours; 2-0-20-0, 1-0-1-0); Lewis 8.1-0-40-4 (nb 1, 1 six, 3 fours; one spell); Martin 5-0-29-1 (w 2, 4 fours; one spell)

Umpires: R Julien and P Wiley.

Reserve umpire: J C Balderson.

Referee: C W Smith (West Indies).

Compiled by Bill Frinch

MATCHES TO COME

SATURDAY: Headingley.

SUNDAY: Old Trafford.

Barmby's England renaissance exposes the cracks in China

China 0
England 3

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE
IN PEKING

THIS was how it used to be. England travel to far-flung corners of the earth to administer a sharp lesson to willing pupils. Nobody, for once, could begrudge the officials of the Football Association their smiles nor the mixture of joy and relief on the face of Terry Venables, the England coach, whose side showed admirable composure in an atmosphere of noise and passion long forgotten in the echoing mausoleum of Wembley.

For once, England found themselves in a game that really mattered in front of a crowd that really cared, and the spirit of a soft, Oriental night will travel happily with them through the toughest tests to come. Two goals by Nick Barmby and a third by the irrepressible Paul Gascoigne were apt reward for England's professionalism. Any more would have been an injustice to China, who had enough to cope with in the violent emotional swings of the 65,000 crowd in the Workers' Stadium here.

Greeted with an ear-splitting moan of plastic trumpets on walking out, China were booed with equal ferocity at the end as allegiance was seamlessly transferred to the shoulders of the conquerors midway through the second half.

The lasting image of an historic occasion will not be of Gascoigne, brandishing his deserved trophy as the England man of the match and being cheered as if he was the

President, nor of the Neville brothers acknowledging their achievement with the sort of polite handshake you might reserve for the mother-in-law, but of the talented young Hao Haidung walking away alone with his side's man-of-the-match trophy to be greeted with a shower of confetti by his own people — the confetti of surrender. He did not deserve such ignominy. "The Chinese team are stupid," was the final insulting chant.

The England players will sympathise. So much could have gone wrong for them on a substandard pitch against opposition with glory in their eyes and fire in their bellies, but the manner in which an inexperienced side destroyed hopes and built authority before adding a flourish to the final construction was a tribute to the depth of character in Venables's squad.

"We went back on our heels for about ten minutes before half-time, and they began to show what they could do," Venables said. "Before that, we had got at them and not let them turn."

Much of the credit should be given to Tony Adams, the captain, who came through his first competitive match in four months with barely a sign of rust. Flanked by the Nevilles, Adams cajoled his side forward, harrying China into elementary errors.

Alongside Adams in the plus column — and, almost certainly, on the list of the final 22 for the European championship finals — can be written the name of Barmby. Venables was waiting for a performance similar to his

outstanding debut against Colombia last autumn and, in the humid air of Peking, he was rewarded for his patience by a bubbly, intelligent, exhibition of forward running crowned by two goals, each timed to perfection.

The first came just before the half-hour when a right-foot shot crashed against the post and fell invitingly back for completion; the second, seven minutes after half-time. Again Anderson was the instigator, with a swift long pass to Gascoigne, who released Barmby on the left side of the penalty area. The delicate chip over the goalkeeper must have lifted Barmby's spirits as much as it depressed the crowd's and, when Gascoigne clipped home the third, 12 minutes later, the influence of Tottenham Hotspur past and present was complete.

As the match was over, the substitutions began, the most forlorn departure made by Alan Shearer, just back from a hernia operation, well-marked by Fan Zhiyi (a centre forward himself) but still worryingly off-colour in an England shirt. Fowler looked more dangerous in 15 minutes than Shearer did in 75, but even that could not tarnish a good night's work. When these two next play each other, the gap will be narrower. For the moment, the Chinese takeover has been postponed. This was a spring roll for England.

CHINA (1-3-4-2): Ou Chuliang — Xu Hong — Wei Qun, Fan Zhiyi, Li Hongyan — Xie Yuxin (sub: Li Meng, 45min), Li Bing (sub: Peng Weiguo, 45), Jiang Feng (sub: Gao Zhongjun, 33), Ma Mingyi — Gao Feng, Hao Haidung.

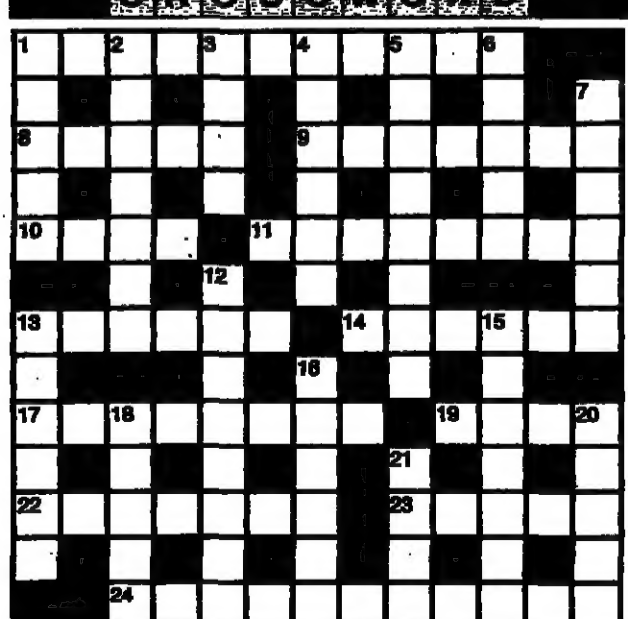
ENGLAND (3-1-4-1-1): T. Flowers (sub: Walker, 64) — G. Neville, A. Adams (sub: U. Ekechi, 76), P. Neville — G. Southgate — G. Medhurst (sub: S. Stone, 80), P. Gascoigne, J. Radcliffe, D. Anderson — N. Barmby (sub: P. Boardley, 72) — A. Shearer (sub: R. Foster, 72).

Referee: P. Collins (Italy).



Gascoigne glides past China's last line of defence to complete the scoring for England in Peking yesterday

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 790

ACROSS

- 1 Make (place) famous (3,2,3,3)
- 8 Poppy drug (5)
- 9 Lie back (7)
- 10 Yellow of egg (4)
- 11 Best friend (5,3)
- 13 Put in irons (6)
- 14 Rubbish washed ashore (6)
- 17 Fearlessly bold (8)
- 19 Gardener's basket (4)
- 22 Upper limit (7)
- 23 (French) secondary school (5)
- 24 With remorseless regularity (3,2,3,3)

DOWN

- 1 A delegated vote (5)
- 2 Group of three (7)
- 3 Without sensation (4)
- 4 Not really; virtually not (6)
- 5 A fish; dappled sky (8)
- 6 Balance; aplomb (5)
- 7 Sweep away abuses (6)
- 12 Cheeky audacity (8)
- 13 Shrink (from pain, challenge) (6)
- 15 Oppressive Med. wind (7)
- 16 Simplified mixed language (6)
- 18 Group of three (5)
- 20 Large, important (5)
- 21 Bloodsucking insect (4)

The solution to 789 will be published Wednesday, May 29

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